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Gulf negotiations will continue despite problems

GCC to play key role in peace talks

ABU DHABI, Sept. 16, (Agencies): The Gulf Co-operation Council intends to increase efforts to push forward the Iran-Iraq peace talks to ensure lasting peace in the region, a top Gulf official has been quoted as saying.

The senior political affairs officer of the GCC, Saif Bin Hashel Al Maskari, told the United Arab Emirates (UAE) news agency WAM last night that he believed that despite problems the talks would continue.

"The GCC states intend to step up efforts, especially during the (UN) General Assembly session, to back peace talks between Iran and Iraq to reach an agreement," Maskari said.

Iran and Iraq have been holding talks in Geneva since Aug. 25 on ending eight years of war. They have now agreed to a plea from UN chief Javier Perez de Cuellar to meet in New York in the first week of October.

scilities..." Maskari said.

The GCC ministers also were scheduled to meet with President Reagan on Sept. 26 and the discussions were expected to touch on ways to ensure the success of the peace process.

"The GCC member states will play a key role in the coming stage of talks to bring stability in the Gulf," he said.

The GCC wanted to develop relations with Iran, he said but denied a report he attributed to Tehran Radio that GCC foreign ministers had discussed bringing Iran, Iraq and North Yemen into the group.

Blamed

"The GCC charter has fixed its membership and there is no question of changing this for the time being," Maskari said.

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati returned to Tehran yesterday after three weeks of talks in Geneva, Iran's official Islamic Republic News

Agency reported.

Velayati blamed Iraq for obstructing progress. But he expressed hope that efforts by Perez de Cuellar and Security Council members would produce results, said IRNA.

The Geneva talks between Velayati and Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz, stalled over procedures for implementing subsequent steps of the UN-sponsored ceasefire, which went into effect on Aug. 20, particularly troops withdrawal and freedom of navigation.

Aziz returned to Baghdad yesterday.

IRNA quoted Velayati as saying the Iraqi delegation blocked progress by putting forward pre-conditions not included in UN Resolution 598 calling for a ceasefire in the eight-year war.

Velayati said: "Iran proved that it will not accept any pre-conditions outside the provisions of Resolution 598 on ending the Iran-Iraq war."

Iran to sweep Gulf for mines

NICOSIA, Sept. 16, (Reuters): The Iranian Navy will start sweeping international waters of the Gulf for mines next week, Iran's IRNA news agency has reported.

It quoted Navy commander Rear Admiral Mohammad Hussein Malekzadegan as saying this would be the first serious step towards securing the safety of ships in the waterway.

Malekzadegan told the agency the Navy had already cleared territorial waters and shipping lanes leading to Iran's southern ports of mines.

The IRNA report, monitored in Nicosia, did not say whether any mines had been found or who might have been responsible for laying them. Tehran denied US reports that it mined the Gulf during the Iran-Iraq war.

160 countries participating in Seoul Olympic Games to begin amid pomp and pageantry

SEOUL, Sept. 16, (Agencies): The Olympic flame was carried into the rain-soaked South Korean capital today ready for the ceremonial opening tomorrow of the biggest Games in Olympic history.

From the pulsating beat of the dragon drum to the fading notes of the Olympic anthem, the three-hour opening ceremony tomorrow of the 1988 Summer Games will be a mingling of computerised pomp and mystical ceremony.

The ancient River Han which laps at the banks of this sprawling city will be the stage for the ceremony's prelude, as 160 windsurfers carrying the flags of the participating countries glide toward the Olympic stadium.



Seoul Mayor Kim Yong Nae holds up the Olympic torch after its arrival in Seoul. (Reuters wirephoto)

Behind the surfers, a flotilla of 458 boats led by the dragon drum ship will sail to shore. The dragon drum will then be lifted from the ship to lead a procession of 1,200 folk drummers into the stadium in a recreation of a Yi dynasty royal procession.

Some 70,000 spectators will await the parade which heralds the start of the 16-day Olympic Games that join athletes from East and West for the first time in 12 years. Up to a billion television viewers will watch live broadcasts around the world.

The stadium audience will be able to hear a narration of the ceremony on earphones in English, French, German, Spanish, Russian, Arabic and Japanese.

Performers will range from professional dancers and skydivers to schoolchildren, farmers, military musicians and martial art experts—13,000 people in all.

Nymphs in flowing Korean costumes and Greek maidens in white tunics will be followed by modern dancers lying on their backs on the stadium floor to form the word "welcome" in English and Korean.

Cradle.

And then it will be time for the 160 team delegations, with more than 13,000 potential marchers, to file into the stadium. Greece, the cradle of the Olympics, comes first. Korea the host, last.

In between, the teams will march in order of the Korean alphabet so that Ghana will be followed by Denmark, and bitter enemies Iran and Iraq will be separated.

President Roh Tae Woo, who assumed office last year with a pledge to democratise Korea as a showcase for the Olympics, will declare the Games open. The spectators will then wave multi-coloured cardboard with graphic designs symbolising harmony and progress.

After the Olympic flag is hoisted, 2,400 white doves—an international symbol of peace—

(Continued on Page 20)

Active

Maskari said the GCC had been active in getting the combatants to the negotiating table.

He said the current GCC president Saif bin Hashel was helping to keep the talks going in contacts with Perez de Cuellar and the five permanent Security Council members.

"We are optimistic the talks will continue despite existing difficulties," he said.

Arabs concerned over poison gas charges against Baghdad

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 16, (Agencies): A two-man Arab delegation expressed concern to the UN secretary-general yesterday over charges by some countries that Iraq had used chemical weapons against its Kurdish population.

Arab League UN observer Clovis Makoud told a press conference the allegations, which Iraq has denied, were a "pre-emptive strike" aimed at deterring Iran-Iraq peace talks, whose success Israel feared, and deflecting attention from the Palestinian struggle for self-determination.

Makoud was accompanied, on his visit to Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, by North Yemen UN Ambassador Mohamed Abdelaziz Sallam, current chairman of the Arab group, which met earlier behind closed doors.

About a dozen Western countries, including Britain, West

Germany, the United States and Japan, asked Perez de Cuellar this week to send a UN team to conduct an investigation after Kurds fleeing Iraq's drive against their dissident strongholds in northern Iraq charged gas had been used in the operation.

Makoud said Turkish and French doctors had reported finding no evidence of poison gas among the tens of thousands of Kurdish refugees given asylum in Turkey.

Because of the "humanitarian, moral implications of the allegation," Iraq had invited the media to conduct its own investigation, he said.

"But for the United Nations to be prompted by a group of states to investigate a matter within the prerogatives of sovereignty, that is objected to," he said.

In Baghdad Iraqi Defence Minister Adnan Khairallah said yesterday it would have been technically impossible for the

Iraqi Army to use poison gas against Kurds as Washington has charged, and indicated Baghdad may not allow a UN probe into the issue.

In a news conference Khairallah said: "If the Kurds are Iraqis, it's an internal issue. So what is the role of the United Nations in this case?"

The US House of Representatives is expected to water down the harsh economic sanctions that the Senate speedily approved last week against Iraq for allegedly using poison gas against Iraqi Kurds.

Congressional sources said today that unlike the near-total trade embargo voted by the Senate, a draft House plan now under discussion at least initially would not ban US agricultural exports to Iraq or imports of oil from Iraq, the two largest categories of business between the two countries.

Sunil Dutt injured

NEW DELHI, Sept. 16, (KUNA): Indian film star Sunil Dutt was today injured in the eye when he was handling a gun during the shooting of a film in Bombay.

The accident occurred at the sets of Pawan Kumar's Dharamyudh in which Sunil Dutt plays a lead role along with Shatrughan Sinha.

Sunil Dutt underwent surgery for the removal of gunpowder. He will have to undergo further tests to ascertain the extent of his eye injury.

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Arab Times today 4-page (9-12) supplement on Olympics

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اخبار و معلومات

• سول الپکس ای مشرقی ہندوستان
• افغانستان کے پاکستان پر فضائی حملے
• مصری حملے
• اسرائیل کو کرکٹ کے لیے گزرتی
• مشرق وسطیٰ میں اسرائیل اور فلسطینیوں کے درمیان کشیدگی
• گویا پورٹ کے اندر ہندوستانی کشیدگی
• کراچی میٹروپولیٹن میں جاری سیاحتی حادثات
• کھانا پکانے کی سستی
• لاہور تار مار اور سیاحتی

WEATHER

TEMPERATURE will be above normal with northwesterly wind.
State of sea: moderate
High water: 8:00 am, 9:00 pm
Low water: 9:00 am, 9:00 pm
Sunrise: 5:34 am
Sunset: 5:51 pm
Maximum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 45°C (113°F)
Ahmed: 41°C (106°F)
Falls: 41°C (106°F)
Kuwait: 44°C (111°F)
Ahmed: 40°C (104°F)
Falls: 40°C (104°F)
Maximum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 20 per cent
Ahmed: 20 per cent
Falls: 20 per cent
Maximum humidity expected:
Kuwait: 20 per cent
Ahmed: 30 per cent
Falls: 30 per cent

US support for uprising demanded

Kidnappers hint at release of hostages

BEIRUT, Sept. 16, (AP): A group holding three American professors and an Indian educator hinted they would consider freeing the hostages if the United States agreed within a week to support the uprising in Israeli occupied territories.

The offer came in a handwritten statement in Arabic from the Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine. It was delivered to a Western news agency in Beirut along with a Polaroid picture of American professors Alann Steen and Jesse Turner.

"Our organization plans to undertake a positive initiative to ease the issue of the hostages. But it needs adequate reactions by international forums towards the rights of our Muslim (Palestinian) people in their struggle against the Zionist enemy," the statement said.

assistant professor of business and lecturer in accounting at Beirut University Centre, and Mithileshwar Singh, 60, a visiting professor of finance and a legal resident alien of the United States.

"The US administration should be the first among the governments that should declare a clear, positive stance toward the rights of our people in harmony with its claims of defending human rights," the statement added.

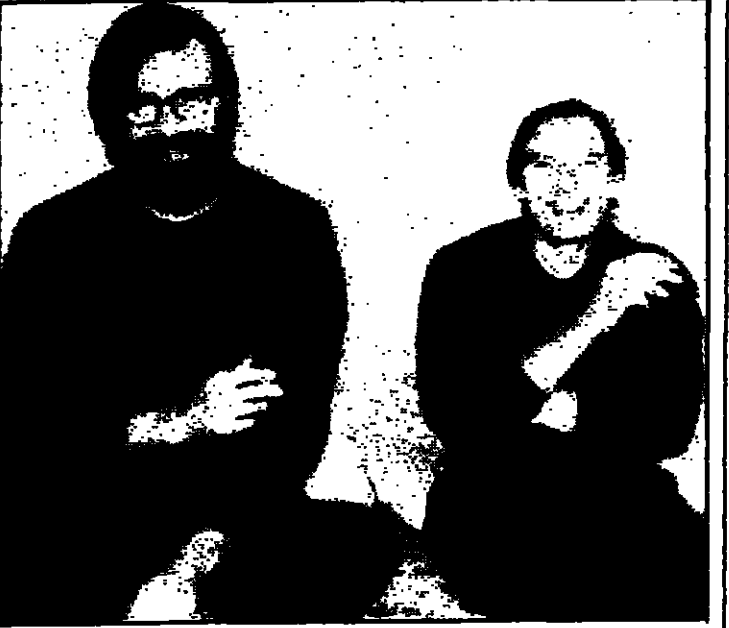
Uprising

"At this sensitive stage of the uprising led by comrades struggling in the interior (of the occupied territories), we initiate this initiative and expect from the governments concerned a response within one week of the publication of this statement. We then will be ready to advance further in this initiative," the statement concluded.

The picture showed both Steen and Turner, lounging on a mattress with a flowered pattern and a violet pillow, with broad smiles on their faces. Each was holding a cigarette.

Both were dressed in navy blue outfits and had long hair.

The weekly, Ash Shiraz, in an uncorroborated report, said: "Terry Waite may be released soon as a result of warmth in relations between Britain and Iran which started with London's condemnation of Iraq's alleged use of chemical weapons against the Kurds in northern Iraq."



Jesse Turner (left) and Alann Steen in a photograph delivered by their captors in West Beirut. (Reuters wirephoto)

US pays \$15m in UN dues

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 16, (AP): The United States gave the United Nations \$15 million in delinquent UN dues on Wednesday and pledged to pay all that it owes, so it will eventually join the minority of UN members that are not delinquents.

A check of UN financial documents shows that as of July 31, only 57 of the 159 member nations had paid their past and 1988 dues in full.

The US was the major offender, accounting for \$467 million of the \$602 million that all nations owed the regular budget for the current and prior years.

President Reagan said the UN will soon receive \$188 million, and the balance will be paid over several years.

All nations are supposed to pay their annual dues by Jan. 31, but this year only 16 nations paid on time: Albania, Bahrain, Canada, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Kuwait, Malta, Norway, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Sweden.

By July 31, the following eight nations that were assessed more than one per cent of the UN's regular budget had also made full payment: Australia, Belgium, Britain, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Spain, and West Germany.

The total regular 1988 budget assessment was \$758 million. The United States was assessed one-fourth of the total. The minimum possible assessment is one-tenth of one per cent.

Negotiations sought

PLO does not want to destroy Israel: Abu Sharif

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Sept. 16, (Agencies): A senior aide to PLO chairman Yasser Arafat, in a rare interview with an Israeli newspaper, has reaffirmed that the PLO wants to negotiate with Israel.

Bassam Abu Sharif, Arafat's dovish spokesman, told the Jerusalem Post the PLO wanted to create a Palestinian state in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, not to destroy the Jewish state.

"We are ready to deal with any representatives of the Israelis who are courageous enough to sit and talk and negotiate peace," he said.

"The PLO wants to negotiate with Israel. Do you think we are going to an international conference to talk to King Hussein (of Jordan)? Or to negotiate with France or with the United States?"

"We want to go to an international conference to negotiate with Israel," he said.

Abu Sharif has taken the lead in publicly advocating a compromise in which Israel and the Palestinians would partition historic Palestine into Jewish and Arab states.

But, Abu Sharif said the PLO was not willing to order a halt to the Palestinian uprising, in the West Bank and Gaza Strip or cease acts of violence against Israel.

"Military operations that have been carried out against Israel, the Israeli Army, will definitely continue as an act of resistance," he was quoted as saying.

Arafat has repeatedly avoided a clear recognition of Israel's right to exist but this week said he was willing to talk to any Israelis at the United Nations.

Israel refuses to negotiate with the PLO under any circumstances, branding it a terror organisation. However, Foreign Minister



Abu Sharif

'Human mouse' developed

PALO ALTO, Calif., Sept. 16, (Reuters): In a discovery that could lead to significant medical advances against numerous diseases, Stanford University scientists have said that they have developed a colony of mice with human blood-forming and immune cells.

The researchers said they have developed more than 200 mice carrying the human blood characteristics.

Scientists transplanted the human immune system into mice by injecting the rodents with human blood or by implanting them with tissue from aborted human foetuses.

Hailed

The results were hailed as major accomplishments because they gave the mice human characteristics that should make them excellent stand-ins for people, allowing researchers to more rapidly develop and test new

drugs and vaccines against AIDS, cancer, hepatitis, herpes, mononucleosis and other diseases.

The researchers succeeded in "making a human mouse," said Dr David Katz, president of the Medical Biology Institute, a research centre in La Jolla, California.

"It is not human in the real sense because the mouse is walking around and behaving like a mouse, only it is protected by a human immune system," he said during a telephone interview.

Biochemist Paul Berg, a Stanford Nobel laureate who is familiar with the research but did not participate in it, said in a statement released by the university: "The prospect of being able to develop an animal model with human organs for experimental purposes has enormous implications for understanding a wide variety of problems."

DAY BY DAY

WHY should people working and living in Kuwait and for whom a car is a necessity undergo endless red tape at the end of which, more often than not, they are told, "You cannot have a driving licence."

This arcane decision is really hard to come to terms with in the present century. The world over, international licences are valid and accepted documents either as temporary driving licences in the country of stay or they are changed to valid licences for the duration of authorised stay.

Unfortunately, here in Kuwait, regulations are far from the norm. To obtain a driving licence, an expatriate is asked to submit a birth certificate, vaccination records and a thousand and one other documents.

Since a driving licence is not a luxury, but a necessity for many individuals, we would like to see clear guidelines for rejecting or granting driving licences.

Zahed Matar

INTERNATIONAL

Bush and Dukakis
duel over economy

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16, (Reuters): Republican George Bush and Democrat Michael Dukakis are duelling over the economy — the major bread-and-butter issue that could determine which man makes it to the White House.

Even though the economy is relatively strong, with unemployment at 5.6 per cent, opinion polls show consistently voters in the tight Nov 8 election fight are unsure of their future jobs and the length of the current prosperity.

The 1981-1982 recession after President Reagan took office has left bitter memories for many people. It was the worst economic downturn since the great depression of the 1930s.

On the campaign trail, Duka-

kis has argued that while many people have jobs they are not high paying ones and more families now must have two breadwinners to survive.

Dukakis was campaigning today in California, the most populous US state, where Vice-President Bush spent two days before going to Ohio today for visits to a steel plant and Air Force base.

While in San Francisco, Bush belittled the Democratic presidential nominee's claims as governor of Massachusetts to have revived his state's economy from one with antiquated textile and shoe factories that shut down to one of low unemployment from new high technology industries.

Reagan denies aides considered
trying to remove him from office

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16, (UPI): President Reagan denies even "one iota of truth" to the report that aides considered trying to remove him from office because he was so depressed and inept in the early months of the Iran-Contra scandal.

The report comes from a White House aide who was dismayed by internal tales of a deflated chief executive in the winter of 1987 and who suggested in a memo to Chief of Staff Howard Baker that drastic action might be needed.

James Cannon, who came to the White House with Baker at the end of February of that year, recalled yesterday he soon was relieved to find the President in

good mental shape and attributed the conflicting tales to frustrated staff members. But the revelation of his memo is the prime topic surrounding the just-published book "Landslide: The Unmaking of the President, 1984-88."

Reagan, asked yesterday about the report, shook his head and said it had "no truth at all." Pressed again later by journalists at a White House picnic for members of Congress, he got angry.

"It's ridiculous. There's not one iota of truth to the whole story," he said.

Vice-President George Bush, who would have taken over if Reagan was removed from office, was asked about the book

on his Republican presidential campaign plane en route to Columbus, Ohio, and said he would use a "four-letter word" to describe it if microphones and tape recorders were not surrounding him.

"Landslide" was written by Jane Mayer, a reporter for the Wall Street Journal who covered the White House, and Doyle McManus, a reporter for the Los Angeles Times who covered the Iran-Contra scandal.

The book describes how Baker, after being announced as the new Chief of Staff when Donald Regan was ousted on Feb. 26, 1987, ordered longtime associates Cannon and Tom

Griscom to the White House to investigate reports of internal disorder amid Reagan's gravest political crisis.

Cannon reported back in the March 1 memo that the White House, wracked by the revelations of secret US arms sales to Iran and diversion of profits to the Nicaraguan Contra rebels, was a mess. In his words, "there was no order in the place. The staff system had just broken down. It had just evaporated."

Cannon said he interviewed 15 to 20 White House aides, some at the senior level, and the overwhelming majority "told stories of how inattentive and inept the President was, he was lazy, he wasn't interested in the job."

Royal delay in Lesotho
sent Pope to S. Africa

HARARE, Sept. 16, (Agencies): Pope John Paul was nine hours late reaching Lesotho because of a brief delay when air controllers would not let his plane land until King Moshoeshoe arrived at the airport. Air Zimbabwe said today.

The royal hold-up on Wednesday allowed bad weather to close in, sending the aircraft to a safer landing in Johannesburg and the Pope on an overland journey across South Africa. Air Zimbabwe's General Manager Fungai Musara, said in a statement.

"The plane arrived over Maseru exactly on schedule while the weather was still good enough to make a safe visual landing," Musara said.

Circled

"For the next 20 minutes the plane circled the Lesotho capital. When the controllers told the captain that the king had arrived and he could land, the weather had worsened considerably," the statement said.

Musara said the pilot decided not to risk a visual landing and chose to fly to Johannesburg "because Jan Smuts was the only airport within safe range where

he could guarantee a safe landing no matter what the weather."

Musara denied a South African account that the plane had also developed engine trouble before diverting to Johannesburg. It had failed to land "simply because of the poor weather" at Maseru.

"If we had been able to land when we reached Maseru or if the navigational aids on the ground there were working so we could land on instruments, there would have been no problem," he added.

Monogamy

In Manzini, the Pope preached monogamy today in the tiny mountain kingdom of Swaziland whose 20-year-old monarch has at least four wives, and possibly a fifth chosen from a bevy of naked women he reviewed last month.

The Roman Catholic Pontiff arrived in the former British protectorate after a bumpy flight from the Southern African kingdom of Lesotho, where King Moshoeshoe II affectionately gave John Paul a new name of "Motalepulo" — meaning the bearer of rain.

Hurricane Gilbert roars towards Texas

HOUSTON, Texas, Sept. 16, (Reuters): Hurricane Gilbert bore down on Texas today, whipping the coast with gale-force winds and rain and sending thousands of people scurrying inland.

The hurricane, which has already killed at least 52 people in a rampage across the Caribbean and Mexico's Yucatan peninsula, was expected to make landfall this evening.

Forecasters said its present path would take it over Brownsville, Texas, a city of 85,000 on the US-Mexican border.

Rising winds and rain began

hitting coastal cities ahead of the storm — at one time the strongest ever recorded in the Western Hemisphere — as it moved closer to shore.

At 0400 GMT today Gilbert was 275 miles (450 km) southeast of Brownsville and moving west-northwest through the Gulf of Mexico at 12 to 15 miles per hour (19-24 KPH), according to the US National Weather Service.

Officials in Galveston, Texas, fearing Gilbert would turn northward, ordered the city of 63,000 evacuated last night.

31 killed as
Ethiopian
plane crashes

ADDIS ABABA, Sept. 16, (UPI): Thirty-one people died and 71 were injured, 12 seriously, when an Ethiopian Airlines Boeing 737 airliner crashed in the northwest of the country. Two more passengers are missing, the airline said today.

A spokesman for the airline in the Ethiopian capital said an engine failed shortly after take-off. The plane tried to land again and finally hit the ground and burst into flames yesterday three miles short of the runway at Bahar Dar, 240 miles (400 km) northwest of the capital.

It was East Africa's most serious crash for 14 years.

"Thirty-one people are dead but the death toll could rise because there are two passengers missing. Seventy-one people were injured, 12 of them seriously. They are in hospitals in Bahar Dar and in Addis," he said.

The spokesman said the twin-engine plane was carrying about 104 passengers and some 10 crew on a scheduled flight from Addis Ababa via Bahar Dar to the northwestern Eritrean capital of Asmara. Two crew were among the injured.

PLO does not
want to destroy
Israel: Abu Sharif
(Continued from Page 1)

Shimon Peres has hinted that his Labour Party might reconsider its rejection if the PLO recognised Israel unambiguously.

The Jerusalem Post interview highlighted contradictions in Israel's approach to the PLO.

In London, Peres, declaring it is "time for a decision" on Middle East peace, challenged Arafat yesterday to discard "escapism" and take a clear position regarding Israel.

Speaking at a news conference, Peres commented on an appearance by Arafat this week at the European Parliament at which the PLO chief said a Palestinian state was "in the offing."

Arafat also appeared to be testing whether the PLO could get West European support if it decided to declare such an independent Palestinian state under Israeli occupation.

Peres said he thought Arafat's visit to the Strasbourg Parliament "was an escape from the issue. I don't believe Europe can give orders to Israel."

Peres said the way to peace was by open negotiation with no pressures or impositions.

Israeli peace campaigner Abie Nathan was questioned by the police today and faces prosecution and a maximum two-year jail term for meeting Arafat in Tunis last week. But there is no similar law barring newspaper interviews.

A joint Jordan-PLO committee will meet tomorrow to discuss how to raise \$450 million in Arab aid to finance economic and social projects in the occupied territories, a Jordanian official said today.

Iran to sweep ...
(Continued from Page 1)

a spokesman for the US Joint Task Force, Middle East, said the US Navy was continuing to clear mines from the Gulf's international waters in co-operation with West European allies.

Goforth confirmed the presence of mines had been reported in the Gulf's northern waters, but said he didn't know if and when those mines would be cleared.

"In London, a British Ministry of Defence spokesman said: any request from Iran for Royal Navy assistance in clearing mines from the Gulf would be cautiously considered on its merits."

But the spokesman stressed that as yet no approach had been made by the Iranians for help from Britain's Armilla Patrol, which currently includes three minesweepers.

Israel clamps
curfew
to forestall
violence

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Sept. 16, (Agencies): The Israeli Army clamped curfews on five of the occupied Gaza Strip's eight Palestinian refugee camps today to forestall violence on the anniversary of a 1982 massacre of Palestinians in Lebanon.

Underground leaders of a nine-month-old Arab revolt against Israeli rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip have called for a general strike and protests on the anniversary tomorrow.

In the Gaza Strip, more than 150,000 Palestinians were under curfew ahead of the anniversary of the killing of several hundred Palestinian civilians in Beirut's Sabra and Shatila refugee camps, three months after Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon.

In a show of unity, both the mainly secular "united leadership of the uprising" and the growing Islamic resistance movement have called for a strike tomorrow.

The Islamic militants have a large following in Gaza but less influence in the West Bank, where an Army spokeswoman said no pre-emptive curfews would be imposed.

Palestinian sources said troops fired rubber bullets and tear gas to break up a mass demonstration in Hebron, but there were no reports of casualties.

Jayewardene
not to seek a
third term

COLOMBO, Sept. 16, (Reuters): Sri Lankan President J.R. Jayewardene announced today he would not seek a third term after more than 10 years in office.

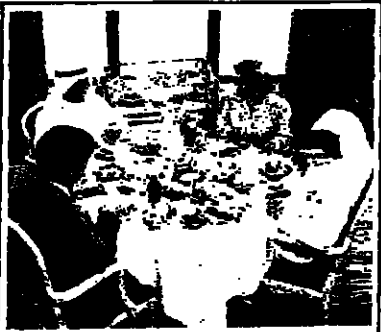
Ruling United National Party (UNP) chairman Ranjan Wijeratne told reporters Jayewardene, who is 82 tomorrow, had made the announcement at a party committee meeting.

The party has accepted Jayewardene's proposal that Prime Minister Ranasinghe Premadasa should be the UNP presidential candidate in elections expected around the end of the year, officials said.

Wijeratne said the committee's endorsement of Premadasa as candidate was unanimous, dispelling earlier public speculation the party faced a split if Jayewardene decided not to stand.

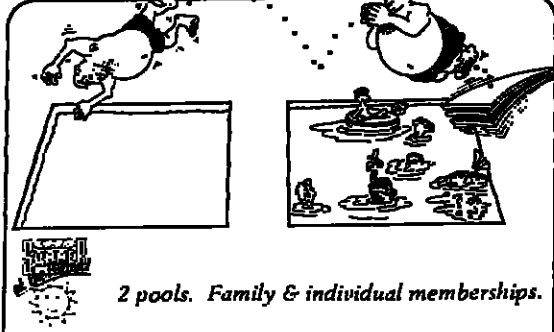
"I'm very happy. It was a unanimous decision," Jayewardene said after the meeting at party headquarters.

The Unchanging Quality of Hilton

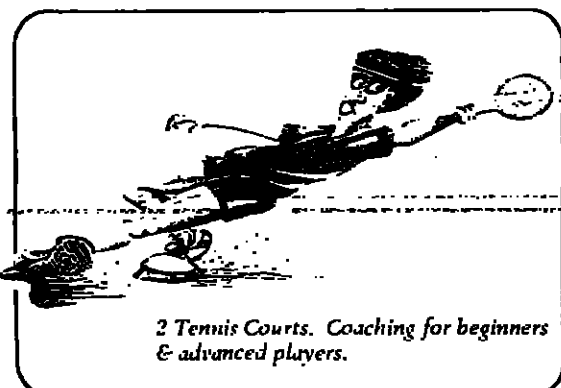


A la Carte Dining & Specialty menu, live band, panoramic views....

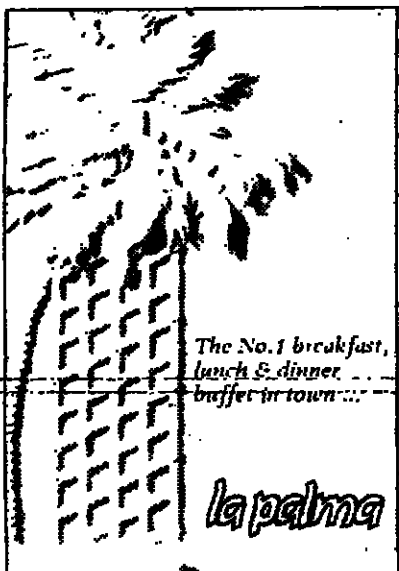
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Gorbachev proposes scrapping bases in Vietnam and Philippines

Soviets unveil Asian peace plan

MOSCOW, Sept. 16, (Reuters): Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev declared today that the Soviet Union would give up its use of a major naval base in Vietnam if the United States agreed to eliminate its military bases in the Philippines.

Gorbachev, speaking in the Siberian city of Krasnoyarsk, made the proposal as part of a seven-point peace plan for the Asian-Pacific region.

In remarks reported by the official Tass news agency, Gorbachev pledged to maintain a Soviet freeze of nuclear weapons in the region and called for talks among the main Asian-Pacific military powers on naval and air strength.

"If the United States agrees to eliminate its military bases in the Philippines, then the Soviet Union is prepared, in accord with the government of Vietnam,

to give up the fleet's material-technical supply point in Cam Ranh Bay," he said.

The Soviet Union uses the Vietnamese port of Cam Ranh Bay as a full-time operating base for its Pacific fleet, according to US officials.

They say that Moscow has built a monitoring complex at the base for electronic surveillance of the US Clark Air Base and Subic Bay Naval Base in the Philippines.

The Soviet Union has previously pressed the United States to withdraw its forces from the Philippines, but Gorbachev's proposal was the first involving an exchange for Soviet withdrawal from Cam Ranh Bay.

Gorbachev also proposed that the Soviet Union's controversial radar station in Krasnoyarsk be converted into an international

centre for the peaceful use of space.

Gorbachev's Asian peace plan contained seven points which he said had been worked out by the Soviet leadership with the aim of strengthening security in the region.

He said:

- 1) The Soviet Union will not increase its nuclear weapons in the Asia-Pacific region and calls on the United States and other nuclear powers to freeze their deployments there.

- 2) The Soviet Union invites major naval powers in the region to hold talks on the non-increase of naval forces.

- 3) The Soviet Union proposes multilateral talks on lowering confrontation at the points where the coasts of China, Japan, North and South Korea, and the Soviet Union converge. The talks would aim at reducing the

strength and activity of those countries' air and naval forces.

- 4) The Soviet Union will stop using Cam Ranh Bay for its fleet if the United States scraps its bases in the Philippines.

- 5) The Soviet Union suggests that measures be taken to prevent incidents in Asian-Pacific seas and airspace. These could be based on accords already worked out between the Soviet Union and Britain, the United States and Japan.

- 6) The Soviet Union proposes an international conference on making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace to be held by 1990.

- 7) The Soviet Union suggests a "negotiating mechanism" be created for talks on Asian-Pacific security. This could be launched by the Soviet Union, the United States and China - permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.

Japan denies involvement in building poison gas plant

TOKYO, Sept. 16, (Reuters): The Japanese government today denied a suggestion by the United States that Japanese industrialists were involved in building a chemical weapons plant in Libya.

Government officials said there was no evidence machine tools exported to Libya were used to produce chemical weapons including poison gas.

There was no proof any Japanese firms were directly involved in setting up a chemical weapons factory in Libya, Chief Cabinet Secretary Keizo Obuchi told reporters.

A spokesman for a Japanese company that shipped machine tools to Libya in 1986 said the tools could have been used for the production of chemical weapons without the company's knowledge.

US State Department spokesman Charles Redman said on Wednesday that the government of Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi had acquired a chemical weapons capability and was on the verge of full-scale production.

India declares 5-day truce in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, Sept. 16, (Agencies): Indian troops in Sri Lanka have begun observing a five-day ceasefire and officials said there were no violations either by the soldiers or by Tamil rebels fighting for an independent homeland.

The ceasefire was announced unilaterally in New Delhi to enable the rebels to surrender arms and participate in elections to local administrative councils in the Tamil-dominated Northern and Eastern Provinces.

The ceasefire was effective from 7 am (0130 GMT) yesterday, officers at Sri Lanka's joint military command and the Indian High Commission in

Colombo said there were no reports of violence after the ceasefire started.

But there were no reports of surrenders by the insurgents, and a member of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the largest Tamil rebel group, said the Indian government would have to reopen negotiations to achieve any breakthrough.

In another development, the Sri Lankan government yesterday invoked emergency powers to ensure that essential services still function after Marxist rebels called for two days of protests to mark President Junius Jayewardene's birthday tomorrow.

Three guerrillas killed

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Sept. 16, (AP): An Israeli Army patrol killed three guerrillas in a pre-dawn firefight in southern Lebanon today, the Army said.

It was the second attempted guerrilla border crossing in six days.

An Army patrol spotted the guerrilla squad on the northern slopes of Dov mountain on the Israeli-Lebanese border, opened fire and killed three guerrillas,

the Army said.

There were no Israeli casualties, the military command said.

An Army spokesman said Israeli soldiers searched the area and found weapons, ammunition and flak jackets belonging to the guerrillas.

The Army did not identify the organisation to which the guerrillas belonged or say if any members of the guerrilla squad managed to escape.

Tribal assembly proposed to restore Kabul peace

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 16, (Reuters): The UN negotiator for Afghanistan, Diego Cordovez, has said he is concerned that the Afghans are not seizing the opportunity for restoring peace in their country with sufficient urgency.

He called for moves to organise a "loya jirga," or traditional tribal decision-making assembly.

Cordovez, who is also the foreign minister of Ecuador, told a news conference the Geneva accords he helped negotiate, providing for the withdrawal of all Soviet troops from Afghanistan by next Feb 15, were being implemented.

But, he added: "I have a deep concern that this opportunity for peace that the Geneva accords opened up has not been seized as yet by the Afghans with the urgency that the situation demands."

Cordovez recently held talks with Afghan and Pakistani ministers during the non-aligned conference in Cyprus and has also conferred with representatives of the United States and the Soviet Union, guarantors of the Geneva accords.

Donor fatigue

VIENNA, Sept. 16, (Agencies): A UN agency has complained of "donor fatigue" among Western nations whose aid contributions to Third World countries hit by famine and other disasters have failed to keep pace with increased need.

"If you get a fall in that outside help, clearly there's going to be more suffering, more death, more malnutrition, more children dying, more diarrhoea, more illness," said James Ingram, executive director of the United Nations World Food Programme.

He said Western nations, some hard hit by inflation, had in general failed to boost aid levels for several years and as a result aid levels had stagnated.

Ingram, attending a symposium on food aid in Vienna, did not mention any of the offending countries by name. He said Japan was an exception as it had boosted aid levels strongly in recent years.

Earlier this week, Bangladeshi President Hussain Muhammad Ershad, whose country has been swept by disastrous floods, said Bangladeshis would have to live with the problem for years to come and he expressed a fear that foreign donors would grow tired of coming to the rescue every time.

Bangladesh's flooded rivers continued to recede yesterday. Jay Morris, deputy administrator of the US Agency for International Development, left Dhaka after a three-day visit.

Morris said he would report his findings to Reagan and Congress.

Pakistan is sending \$550,000 worth of wheat to flood victims in Bangladesh, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said in Islamabad.

Cyprus unity talks begin

NICOSIA, Sept. 16, (Reuters): Leaders of rival Greek and Turkish communities in Cyprus began intensive unity talks today in the island's UN-controlled buffer zone seeking to reach a settlement by a June 1 target date.

Cyprus President George Vassiliou and Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denkash began a morning session in the buffer-zone residence of UN special representative Oscar Camillion, without advisers.

Interim government may be formed in Burma

RANGOON, Sept. 16, (UPI): Thousands of anti-government protesters demanded democracy and an end to authoritarian rule as opposition leaders met with state representatives to discuss the formation of an interim government, diplomats and political sources said.

Crowds, estimated at more than 100,000 people, marched through Rangoon early Thursday carrying banners and chanting anti-government slogans. The crowds were smaller than demonstrations earlier in the week but the tone of the slogans and speeches was more militant.

Protesters from the school for the blind marched holding a long rope.

Student groups announced a full-scale general strike and massive demonstrations for Saturday.

The entrenched government and the ever-confident opposition sat down and tried to find a solution to a wave of social unrest that erupted nationwide in August.

"We are hearing that negotia-

tions are going on between representatives of the government and the opposition figures as to the composition of an interim government," said a diplomat who asked not to be named.

"Both sides are feeling each other out," he said.

If successful, the negotiations would end the socialist, military-backed regime that has harshly ruled Burma since 1962 and isolated it from much of the world.

The Burmese government announced today that all 180,000 members of the armed forces and all civil servants were no longer members of the ruling Burma Socialist Programme Party.

Official Radio Rangoon said the Council of State, the top government body, took the decision to ensure that multi-party elections set for within three months would be free.

The Indian government today sent an aircraft to Rangoon to evacuate dependants of South Asian diplomats in Burma.

Aquino launches political alliance

MANILA, Sept. 16, (UPI): President Corazon Aquino today launched a new political alliance similar to a party led by former ruler Ferdinand Marcos, and critics said the coalition would seek Aquino's re-election in 1992.

Aquino strode to the luxurious Philippine International Convention Centre to the strains of a brass band blaring "Mabuhay" (long live), costumed tribesmen prancing to the beat of drums and cheers from the packed crowd of more than 5,000 delegates.

"It is time for the political forces to start aligning themselves on the basis of their respective beliefs and programmes," Aquino said in her address.

The inaugural meeting of the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino, or Fight of the Democratic Filipino, was reminiscent of the political gatherings of Marcos' New Society Party.

Aquino's party was formed by relatives and people close to the President who said it was aimed at supporting government programmes and policies. It includes 153 of the 200-member House of Representatives.

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Iraq will rebuild Basra in new location

BAGHDAD, Iraq, Sept 16, (AP): The 1,400-year-old port city of Basra, badly pounded by the Iraqis during the Gulf war, will be rebuilt in a new location on the western bank of the Shatt Al Arab waterway, Defence Minister Gen. Adnan Khairallah said.

Other border towns battered by the Iraqis will also be relocated, he told a news conference yesterday.

"A decision was made by the Iraqi leadership to remove all border cities and towns into the interior," he said.

"The decision was taken in view of our experience during the war with Iran," said Khairallah, who is also a member of the Ruling Revolutionary Command Council.

He gave no other details and did not disclose where the new Basra will be located, except to say it will be "not far away from its present location."

The historic port was founded in 637 AD by Caliph Omar Ben Ghazwan after the Arabs, fired with the new religion of Islam, invaded from the south.

Tried Basra, only 15 miles (25 kilometres) from the Iranian border, was Iraq's main port before the war. It lies on the Shatt Al Arab, Iraq's only outlet to the Gulf, 36 miles (60 kms) to the

South.

The port was closed in the early days of the 8-year-old war.

Much of the city, once dubbed the Venice of the East because of its many canals, was destroyed by fierce Iranian artillery and rocket fire during the war. Thousands of civilians were killed or wounded.

The Iraqis tried to capture the city several times to declare a pro-Iranian Shiite Muslim state there with Basra as its capital.

Basra had a pre-war population of 1.5 million, making it Iraq's second largest city. Tens of thousands of people fled during the fighting, but have started filtering back since the United Nations-sponsored ceasefire took effect Aug 20.

Seek Basra's governor, Anwar Said Al Hadithi, told reporters last month that the government had allocated 1.5 million Iraqi dinars (about \$5 billion) for the city's reconstruction.

It was not immediately known if the government's new plans will mean a halt in rebuilding the ancient city.

Iraq said last week that it will seek foreign help to reconstruct the small southern town of Faw, captured by the Iraqis in February 1986 and now considered a symbol of victory.

The Iraqis retook it in April in

the first series of lightning offensives that forced Tehran to accept the UN ceasefire.

Faw is expected to require its strategic importance as Iraq's main oil exporting terminal when a peace treaty is signed.

Khairallah denied that Iraq is demolishing villages in the northern mountains and relocating their Kurdish populations in a campaign to crush autonomy-seeking rebels.

He said some villages were demolished for security reasons, which he did not specify, and others to make way for development.

Boat registration centres to open

SAQUER Al Sudan, the Assistant Undersecretary for Transportation Affairs at the Ministry of Communications has announced that the Ministry will open three centres for registration of small boats.

The centres will be located in Failaka, at the Waterfront Project and in Kheiran.

All boats must be registered, just like cars, the official said. The Shuwaik port registration centre will exclusively register boats and yachts — not members of any sea club, Al Sudan said.

Road improvement contract cancelled

THE Ministry of Public Works has revealed a contract with a company working on a major road project leading into Kuwait City, because of excessive work delays.

Minister of Public Works, Abdul Rahman Al Houti said the Ministry withdrew the project, near the First Ring Road between the junction of Al Maghreb and Cairo streets, because the contractor was far behind schedule.

The ministry wanted to show its concern with the timely execution of state projects and question companies which fail to honour contracts with the government, Al Houti said.

The government was convinced that the contractor in project 46 was unable to finish the work according to contract, the minister said.

A second tender for the remaining work in the project will be announced soon, he said.

Meanwhile, the minister signed a KDI 35 million contract Tuesday for cleaning sewers in Salamiya, Rumaithiya and Salwa suburbs.

Centres begin computerised registration

THE Ministry of Public Health is implementing a new computerised health registration system at health centres in Rawdha, Shaab, Khaldiya and Shuwaik from Sept 12.

The ministry has asked residents in these areas to bring their Civil Identity Cards with them on their first visits to these centres to receive new health registration cards.

The necessary information for registration is provided by the Public Authority for Civil Information.

Mechanics put repair shop on wheels

FOR the first time in Kuwait two youths have started a mobile car repair shop.

The shop is conveniently situated inside a big bus which can bring the workshop to your door or tow your vehicle to the destination of your choice.

Mtair Mijbel Al Sharika and his partner Mubarak Mohamad were granted a mobile garage licence which allows them to repair cars anywhere.

The youths' garage consists of a converted bus equipped with all repair equipment.

The youths say that they service nearly 50 cars daily and are thinking of expanding their business by increasing the number of their mobile workshops.

Mtair and Mubarak have invited Kuwaiti citizens to join them. They are quite willing to train them in the mechanics of car maintenance, they said.

Dentistry centres to open soon

THE Ministry of Public Health is planning to open dentistry centres in Addan, Farwakh Al Shuwaik and Mubarak Al Kabir health areas soon, according to an authoritative source.

The source said that the Ministry is also planning to establish a dentistry training centre in the Sabah health area.

A new dentistry lab has already been established at the Dentistry Centre, the source added.

The new centres would alleviate the pressure on the dentistry centre in the Amert health area.

The Dentistry Department has 315 dentists and 28 trainees. A total of 1,382,992 patients visited the centre last year compared to 685,431 patients in 1979. The department has a back-up staff of 297 nurses, 21 X-ray technicians, 66 dentistry lab technicians and 12 maintenance technicians.

Baseless accusation.

BELGRADE, Sept 16, (KUNA): Yugoslav Airport authorities today apologised to a Kuwaiti who was detained here for two days because officials mistakenly thought his visa to the United States was forged.

Khalifa Abdalla Al Hirran told KUNA here that the Yugoslav authorities stopped him on Wednesday while he was travelling from Kuwait and told him that his US visa was forged.

Al Hirran said in a telephone call with KUNA that the American consul in Kuwait gave him the visa at the embassy.

Kuwaiti Charge d'Affaires for consular affairs here, Hmoud Al Rodhan, told KUNA that after thorough investigations the Yugoslav authorities found out that the accusations were baseless.

However, the dealer, in co-operation with his manager, deliberately did not declare 300

Cars damaged, valuables stolen

A NUMBER of cars at Sulaibiya were broken into and valuables stolen on Wednesday morning.

Complaints were filed with the Sulaibiya police station by the owners and similar allegations were made by other residents of the area.

The common complaint was that car windows were smashed, and money, gold ornaments, and other valuables were stolen. Investigations are under way.



One of the damaged cars.

Court sentences liquor smugglers

TWO employees of the Customs Department at Kuwait International Airport were sentenced to four years in jail for abetting smuggling.

The court was told that the two had successfully conspired with a third party to smuggle about 41 bottles of liquor into the country for a payment of KD400.

The third defendant identified as N.K.M. informed the court that he had recently been introduced to the two defendants by his father. He added that his father and the two defendants had been smuggling liquor into Kuwait for several years.

The third defendant was arrested by security men while in the act of selling part of the contraband. The buyer was also arrested.

The court sentenced the third and fourth defendant to three and two years jail terms respectively.

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Six-fold increase in misdemeanour cases

THE Court of First Instance received some 26,600 misdemeanour cases and 34,600 criminal cases last year.

A report from the Ministry of Justice said the court received 3,880 misdemeanour cases and 7,400 criminal cases in 1980. Therefore there has been a six-fold increase in misdemeanour cases and a four-fold increase in criminal cases in the last eight years.

The report showed that the highest number of cases of both types was recorded in 1985, when as many as 34,000 misdemeanour and 40,000 criminal cases were lodged.

Another important fact in the report is that the following year witnessed a sharp drop in both categories, with only 15,000 misdemeanours and 20,000 criminal cases recorded.

Meanwhile, the ministry announced that there were 2,812 documented marriages in the first four months of this year. The report added that 1,329 of the marriages involved Kuwaiti men, 1,031 of whom married Kuwaiti women, whilst the other 298 married expatriates.

Last year, the ministry recorded 9,591 marriages, 4,196 of which were Kuwaiti couples and 946 were Kuwaiti men with expatriate women.

The Court of Cassation has upheld jail sentences of 17 years each on a businessman and his manager for committing a number of fraudulent acts.

The businessman was one of the Manakhi dealers referred to the Post Dated Settlement Establishment because his balance was not sufficient to meet his debts. Like other dealers, he was asked to give full details of his assets, financial and otherwise, and to stop dealing from the date of referral to the establishment.

However, the dealer, in co-operation with his manager, deliberately did not declare 300 kilograms of gold, villas in Egypt and the USA and 25 acres of land in the USA and illegally issued cheques to various people, amounting to over KD 1.5 million.

The criminal court sentenced them to 17 years' imprisonment with hard labour. The Court of Higher Appeal upheld the sentence, as did the Court of Cassation.

The pair were arrested on Sept 4 in Khor Fakkan, a UAE port, 120 miles (200 kilometres) north-east of the capital, Abu Dhabi.

Police sources said the two Irishmen were arrested after a complaint by Jordanian doctor Samir Nasser, who accused them of kidnapping his daughter, Nadine, after gagging and tying him up along with his second wife.

The men were carrying a toy pistol and an Irish passport for the girl and planned to take her back to her mother, Ann McManus, a Dublin nurse. She allegedly paid them for the operation.

The police sources, who spoke on condition they not be named, said the two men refused to make statements and were awaiting a lawyer because they did not understand the English-Arabic translation provided by the police.

The Jordanian doctor married Ann in 1981. He divorced her six years later and took the child for a three-week leave in Jordan. There he succeeded in obtaining custody of the girl through a Jordanian court.

Police, security chiefs begin 13th conference

TUNIS, Sept 16, (KUNA): Police and security commanders from 19 Arab countries began their 13th conference here today.

Tunisian State Minister for Interior Affairs Al Habib Ammar, in an inaugural address, said the officials will reassess the security situation in the Arab states as well as Arab co-operation in this sphere.

Study Secretary-General of the Arab Interior Ministers Council Dr Akram Nash'at hailed the council's achievements topped by Arab security strategy, Arab strategy for combating drugs

and the unified Arab law in this regard. The Council also drew special attention to terrorism. The general secretariat is preparing a study on means of combating terrorism, he said.

The conferees will discuss social crimes and commercial and naval fraud. Kuwait's Assistant Undersecretary of the Interior Ministry Abdel Aziz Juma, the Director of the Research Department Col Abdel Majid Khraibni and Brigadier Abdel Meguid Al Haj will represent Kuwait at the meeting.

Two on trial in UAE for kidnapping 5-year-old

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates, Sept 16, (AP): Two Irishmen arrested on charges of kidnapping the 5-year-old daughter of an Irish nurse and a Jordanian doctor will appear before an Abu Dhabi Court on Saturday, court sources said.

The two were identified by officials today as Dennis Dunhill and Gerard Flynn. The Irish embassy was closed today for the Muslim weekend and officials were not available to confirm the identification or provide other details.

The pair were arrested on Sept 4 in Khor Fakkan, a UAE port, 120 miles (200 kilometres) north-east of the capital, Abu Dhabi.

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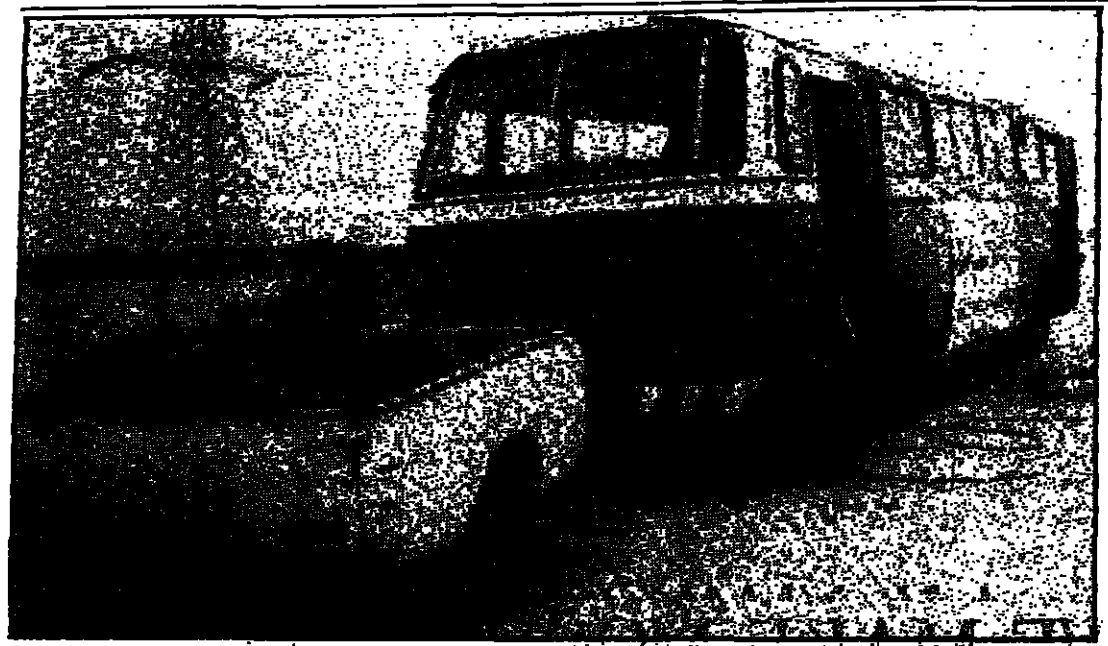
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Police sources said the two Irishmen were arrested after a complaint by Jordanian doctor Samir Nasser, who accused them of kidnapping his daughter, Nadine, after gagging and tying him up along with his second wife.

The men were carrying a toy pistol and an Irish passport for the girl and planned to take her back to her mother, Ann McManus, a Dublin nurse. She allegedly paid them for the operation.

The police sources, who spoke on condition they not be named, said the two men refused to make statements and were awaiting a lawyer because they did not understand the English-Arabic translation provided by the police.

The Jordanian doctor married Ann in 1981. He divorced her six years later and took the child for a three-week leave in Jordan. There he succeeded in obtaining custody of the girl through a Jordanian court.



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EVENTS

ARAB TIMES, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1988

TV CORNER

Olympics on KTV 2

KTV 2 will show recorded-replay of Olympic Games highlights from 1.30 pm to 8 pm, beginning today, including the opening ceremony, said a Kuwait TV spokesman.

The Olympic Games bulletin will be shown daily until Oct 2. Yousuf Al Kaoud of the sports department at KTV said live transmission could not be shown due to the time difference between Kuwait and Seoul. But arrangements have been made to give comprehensive coverage to all sports, including swimming, gymnastics and athletics. Particular attention will be paid to Kuwait's national sport, football. All soccer matches, from start to finish, will be shown, he said.

Due to Olympic Games coverage, programmes between 6 pm and 8 pm, listed below, may be cancelled.

This week on KTV 2

SUNDAY

1:30 Holy Quran
1:40 Olympic Games
8:00 News in English
8:40 The Flying Doctors: "To the Rescue." While the town prepares for a beauty pageant two men steal drugs from the doctor's clinic.
9:30 My Two Dads: "Joey's Mother-in-Law." Michael's mother pays a visit and advises the two men on how to bring up a daughter.
10:00 Believe it or Not
10:30 Bestseller: "Fields of Five." Part 2. The Englishman settles down and joins the army.
11:30 News summary/Magazine d'Actualite/Closedown

MONDAY

1:30 Holy Quran
1:40 Olympic Games
8:00 News in English
8:40 Miami Vice: "Knock, Knock. Who's There?" The vice squad are entrusted to find out the reason behind a policeman's incompetence. Starring: Don Johnson.
9:30 Private Benjamin: "Not for Men Only." The Tigers regiment is for men only but one of the girls wants to join it. Judy tries to help.
10:00 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: "Deadly Desires." A psychopath is

on the run...and kills beautiful women, one by one.

10:30 The Equalizer: "Regrets Only." A doctor's wife ends up in a mental asylum after maltreatment by her schizophrenic husband. Starring: Edward Woodward.
11:30 News summary/Magazine d'Actualite/Closedown

TUESDAY

1:30 Holy Quran
1:40 Olympic Games
8:00 News in English
8:30 You and the Law: local show
8:50 Magnum: "L.A." Part One. Magnum's girlfriend is involved with a deadly gang and the private eye tries to help her. Starring: Tom Selleck.
9:30 Les Facheux de Marguerite: French series with Arabic subtitles. Wilbur Wright arrives in Paris.
10:00 Perfect Strangers: "Hello Elaine." Larry's sister joins the cousins and declares her intention to study music. Larry is against the idea; Balki supports Elaine.
10:30 B/W feature film: "The House Across the Bay." While waiting for her jailbird husband to come out, Elaine falls



Magnum P.I. (Tom Selleck) is on a wild-goose chase in this week's episode, Tuesday, 8.50 pm.

for an aircraft designer; the husband hears of this, seeks revenge. Starring: George Raft, Walter Pidgeon, Joan Bennett. (1940). Duration: 70 minutes.
12:00 News summary/Magazine d'Actualite/Closedown

WEDNESDAY

1:30 Holy Quran
1:40 Olympic Games
8:00 News in English
8:40 O'Hara: "You Bet Your Life." Was Carl a spy? What is the truth behind his murder? O'Hara is on the case.
9:30 Wildlife on One: "The Pregnant Male."
10:00 Sledge Hammer: "The Secret." The governor's daughter is missing. Can Sledge find her? Starring: David Rasche in the title role.
10:30 LA Law: there is ardour in court as the attorneys get set to defend another client.
11:30 News summary/Magazine d'Actualite/Closedown

THURSDAY

1:30 Holy Quran

1:40 Olympic Games
8:00 News in English
8:40 High Mountain Rangers: "Matt's Choice." Jackie and Jessy celebrate their silver wedding anniversary; Matt is told to take up a job in a law firm and leave the mountain. Will he?

FRIDAY

1:30 Holy Quran
1:40 Olympic Games
8:00 News in English
8:30 Summer '88
8:40 The Twilight Zone: off-beat stories of unlikely

happenings.
9:30 227: Sandra, Mary and Lester are embroiled in another light-hearted controversy.
10:00 Spectacular World of Guinness Records: David Frost presents the new record holder: introduces an African tribe with a strange deformity and watches an experiment to walk on water.
10:30 Tour of Duty: "Pushing Too Hard." The American media does not take a sympathetic view of the Vietnam war.
11:30 News summary/Magazine d'Actualite/Closedown

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

3.30 Holy Quran
3.35 Heidi: cartoon serial
4.10 World News via Satellite
4.40 Fursan Al Hikmah: "Al Adal Asas Mulk." Arabic serial, with Mohammad Dafarawi, Midhat Saleh, Hamza Shimi.
5.40 Cartoons
6.10 Documentary
7.05 Noor Al Islam
8.00 Variety Show
8.30 Hamaat Al Watan
9.00 News in Arabic
9.50 Al Sharih Maktour: Arabic serial, starring Hassan Yusuf, Nawal Al Futouh, Mustafa Fahmi, Osama Abbas
10.50 Dunya Midhak Mabki: "Mabrouk Ya Arees." Starring: Hani Ruman, Tayseer Sa'adi, Huda Sharawi, Samiya Jazairi.
12.05 News Summary
12.10 World News via Satellite, followed by Holy Quran/Closedown.



Jameson Parker and Gerald McRaney play Simon and Simon, 8.40 pm, KTV 2

opening session of the Seoul Olympic Games.
5.10 A recording of the football match between Iraq and Zambia during the first day of Olympic Games.
6.50 Daily message from the Seoul Olympics.
8.00 News in English
8.40 Simon & Simon: "Ties that Bind." A policeman's gun is found on the scene of crime and he is taken into custody. Starring: Jameson Parker and Gerald McRaney.
9.30 Beyond 2000: a look

at India's space exploration programme and audio technology in Japan.
10.30 TV Movie: "For Love of Money." Can a man and a woman live together for the love of money? A TV crew try to find out. Starring: Gil Gerrard, Susanne Pleshette.
11.30 News summary/Magazine d'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

KTV 2

1.30 Opening with Holy Quran
1.40 Cartoons
1.50 A recording of the

PRAYERS

Fajr	4.15 am
Zuhr	11.42
Asr	3.11 pm
Maghreb	5.50
Isha	7.07

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WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
DAILY: 5 pm onwards: natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Friday: 9 am onwards.
Islamic Arts Museum
SAT — THURS: 8.30 am to 12.30 noon and 4.30 to 7.30 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment.
Arabian Gulf St.
Tareq Rajab Museum
SAT — THURS: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm; FRIDAYS: 9 am to noon. Collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.
Sadu House
SAT — THURS: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

THEATRE

KLT
SEPT 20/21: KLT, Ahmadi, 7.30 pm. Auditions for annual pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk. Those interested can attend audition at the theatre. The group needs volunteers to help backstage.
Konkani Drama
OCT. 7: IAC, Funaites, 4 pm: Konkani drama entitled "Xim Vo Ximite", featuring the Mendes Brothers. Entry passes available at Raja Stores.

MUSIC

Sounds Great
SEPT 16, 11 am/Sept 17, 7.30 pm: Universal American School, Salwa: Audition for singers, dancers and musicians for the next Sounds Great Show, scheduled to be held at the Sahmiah cinema from Oct 19-22. For details ring Ken Winston or Adolf 5740256/7 or 5758870.
Kuwait Singers
SEPT 18: Kuwait Singers start rehearsals for their winter concert on Sunday, 7.30 pm, and not Monday, at the Sunshine School, Salwa. New members particularly welcome.
Indian Ballet
SEPT 22: 7.00 pm, at IAC, Funaites: Narthana, a dance troupe led by Mohiniyattam exponent Mrs Prameela Surendran, will stage a ballet, Pandaravadi, and Nrithasatsav, an annual show, Nrithotsav. Admission will be strictly limited; for free passes, call 4337608.

SOCIAL

Kuwait Players Poolside BBQ
SEPT 21: Messilah Beach Hotel, 8 pm: Kuwait Players poolside BBQ. All prospective members and newcomers to Kuwait are welcome. Tickets — KD2 per person. For reservations Tel: 394-1572.
Varca Sporting Centre
SEPT 22: SAS Hotel's Tent, 8 pm: Varca Sporting Centre's third annual social evening. Music by Top Ranks and Stepping Stones. Highlights: Beauty Queen contest, ideal couple contest, fancy dress, games and Bingo. For reservations and details, contact Maqbool — 471-2900, Albert 241-0461, or James 5331940.
D'Assisi Association
OCT 7: Holy Family Cathedral, 8 am: D'Assisi Association's 8th annual thanksgiving mass. All ex-students are welcome. For details phone Augustin — 574-6754 after 6 pm or Henry — 3291909 (am).

Kapilku/Flassik

SEPT 24, 9.30 pm, KLT: Ahmadi. Rehearsals commence for the Society's annual concert. Scheduled to be held on Dec 11, 12 and 13. Newcomers are welcome. For details Tel: 391-2384; 398-3964; 390-1782.

Country Western Musical

SEPT 27: Gala Night of KLT and ACT's annual Country Western Musical 7.30 pm at KLT, Ahmadi.

SEPT 28 and 29, night shows, 8 pm.

SEPT 30: matinee at 5 pm.

For bookings call 5727558; 5712033; 5620332.

East meets West

OCT 6: IAC, 6.30 pm: "East meets West", a musical evening, by The Fams, Hindi, Punjabi, Malayalam, Tamil, Konkani, Bengali, Arabic and Western music. Lead vocalist: Susan Rego. For entry by passes Tel: 2409250; 4743948 or IAC — 3904817.

Beat Show

OCT 4: IAC, 3.30 pm: Kuwait Goan Beat Show: four hours of non-stop music featuring six brass bands — City Limits, 5th Dimensions, Perfect Stranger, Stepping Stones, Next of Kin and Top Ranks. Organised by the Kuwait Goans.

Guitar Recital

OCT 19: German guitarist and composer Wolfgang Condin will give a recital at the Kuwait Hilton. "Hymns of Eternity", one of Condin's most significant compositions will be featured in his concert along with works by J.S. Bach and H. Villa-Lobos. Tickets are available from the Hilton lobby.

SPORTS

Windsurfing Regatta

OCT 7: MBH Windsurfing Regatta. Open to men, women and teams. Entry forms available from Marine Centre (Tel: 5753960); Qabazard Marine (Tel: 5730442); Sultan Centres and Al Boom Marine (Tel: 4830570). For further details phone 5624111 ext 751/739.

Softball League

CALLING players — men and women — to join Kuwait International Softball League. Contact Steve Diemler — Tel: 531-5246 or Vic Mason Tel: 5728931. Ladies wishing to join the Ladies League call Rita Diemler — Tel: 5315246.

Boy's Own Club

OCT 22/23: Boy's Own Club will hold a seven-a-side one-day football festival on the holiday declared to mark the Prophet's birthday. Interested teams can contact Milagres 3967446 or Joe 4813622. * All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phone-in entries will not be accepted.

Al Andalus

Alligator
Starring: Robert Forrester, Henry Sullivan

Al Sahmiah

Trancers
Starring: Tim Thomson, Helen Hunt

Al Hamra

Al Kamasha (Arabic)
Starring: Mahmoud Yaseen, Bosi, Shweikar

Drive-In

Nahar Al Khauf (Arabic)
Starring: Noora, Mahmood Abdu Aziz, Salah Qabil

Al Firdous

Khoun Baha Ganga Main (Hindi)
Starring: Aditya Pancholi, Amrita Singh

Fahaaheel Open-Air

Berham (Hindi)
Ezhutha Purangal (Malayalam)

Al Jahra

Rambo III
Starring: Sylvester Stallone

Granada

Eat the Rich
Sulaibikhat
Al Ab Al Sharayi (Arabic)

Al Jebb

Kottum Kuravayum (Malayalam)

Ahmadi Drive-In

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EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

I NEVER think of the future. It comes soon enough — Albert Einstein, German-born physicist (1879-1955).

UN burdened with price of peace

By Ted Morello

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y.: Can the United Nations afford the price of peace?

This is the question officials of this nearly bankrupt organisation face as they prepare to handle a wave of peace-keeping demands.

The price tag for the most recent move — the stationing of observer forces along the Iran-Iraq border — is \$37.5 million for three months. Observer forces for Afghanistan weigh in at \$7 million for the coming year.

And possible future involvement in Southwest Africa, the Western Sahara, and Kampuchea. UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said recently, could bring the grand total up to \$1.5 billion to \$2 billion this year — "more than twice ... the regular annual United Nations budget."

The UN's casualty cost is correspondingly high. Since the first UN peacekeeping operation was mounted in the mid-1940s, about 700 "blue beret" soldiers have lost their lives.

Despite reservations, the General Assembly acted swiftly on the secretary-general's appeal to authorise funding for the Gulf force. A team of 350 officers of the UN Iran-Iraq Military Observer Force arrived in the region Aug 20 to monitor the ceasefire and a withdrawal of troops by both sides.

Even so, Perez de Cuellar got only half the funds he had requested. In approving the peacekeeping force, the Security Council agreed to authorise it for an initial six months. For that period, he had made a request for \$75.6 million.

But by the time the General Assembly voted, the duration had been cut to three months and the funding reduced to \$37.5 million.

In part, the reduction in time and money reflected the UN's budgetary crisis. But it also may have been a triumph of hope over experience.

In 1964, the first year of the UN peacekeeping force in Cyprus, the Security Council provided for durations of three months or less.

But with no end in sight to the Greek Cypriot-Turkish Cypriot conflict, by mid-1965 it fell into a cycle of renewing its mandate every six months — a practice that persists.

Similarly, members of the UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) have patrolled the western buttress of the Himalaya mountains for nearly 40 years.

To date, the UN has fielded 15 peace operations.

Burmese opposition should act now

By Kevin Cooney

BANGKOK, (Reuters): Prominent opposition leaders have come under renewed pressure in Burma's struggle for political power to do more than simply urge on protesters and demand the government's resignation.

Student leaders, diplomats and analysts here and in Rangoon and it seems, the foremost opposition figures themselves, agree that the time has come to offer Burmese an alternative government with prospects of ending economic privation.

Students summoned the most prominent government opponents to a meeting on Tuesday and urged them to unify and come up with a plan for an opposition-based potential government.

Attending the meeting were Aung San Suu Kyi, daughter of independence hero Aung San, former military men Tin Oo, Aung Gyi and Bo Ya Naing, former Prime Minister U Nu and others.

"We agreed to deliver a response within 48 hours," Aung San Suu Kyi told Reuters.

Compromise

The meeting took place days after the government offered multi-party elections within three months — an apparent final compromise, diplomats say.

The opposition says the ruling Burma Socialist Programme Party is incapable of running an honest election and insists that it step down and let an interim

Over 10,000 military personnel from more than 25 of the UN's 159 member states serve in seven observer or peacekeeping missions.

The most financially costly has been the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

This force was established a decade ago as a temporary presence of about 6,000 peacekeepers to monitor the withdrawal of Israeli troops that had invaded southern Lebanon and to help restore Beirut's authority over the area.

The Israelis, however, still remain — in a self-declared "security zone" — and so does UNIFIL. The cost since its inception: more than \$1.5 billion.

By the latest accounting, member states' regular budget arrears total about \$690 million. Of that amount the United States owes about \$467 million.

In addition, the US is \$65 million behind on peacekeeping assessments. On Tuesday, Washington said that it is ready to pay \$188 million by Oct 1, and further \$520 million over the next few years.

The Soviet Union, which owed more than \$172 million in peacekeeping arrears, has begun paying up and has said it intends to wipe out the debt within four or five years.

Under these circumstances, UN members are ambivalent about Perez de Cuellar's prediction that suborn regional conflicts appear to be heading toward solution and may require further outlays in personnel and money.

Specifically, he cited: ● Namibia, where the UN is committed to guiding the territory toward independence from South Africa at an estimated cost of "at least \$700 million."

● The Western Sahara, where the UN is expected to deploy several thousand peacekeepers and observers to monitor a ceasefire between Moroccan and Polisario rebel troops and to oversee a self-determination referendum.

● Kampuchea, where "extensive" activities, perhaps including verification of a Vietnamese troop withdrawal and election supervision, will become a post-war UN responsibility.

Perez de Cuellar says it is ironic that just when "the pursuit of peace quickens its pace throughout the UN, bankruptcy threatens the organisation."

"Peace has its price," the UN secretary-general says. But "war's devastation dwarfs the costs of peace. And in a moral sense, there is no price to place on a single human life," he concludes.

The Christian Science Monitor.

Third World hit by natural disasters

By Michael Battye

NEW DELHI, (Reuters): The monsoon rains poured over the Himalayan foothills. Mudslides swept villages and soil into streams that swelled the great rivers draining the Indian sub-continent.

Three of the rivers burst their banks, inundating two-thirds of Bangladesh. A quarter of the country's 105 million people were made homeless. Hundreds died. More will die in the epidemics and hunger that are expected to follow in one of the world's poorest countries.

In Northeast Africa a devastating drought scorched the earth. Swarms of locusts munched their way across a whole region just as the baked landscape was turning green.

Then came the floods, causing havoc. Relief workers say more than a million perished in the cycle of death and destruction in Ethiopia alone.

Efficient

Could the disasters have been prevented? Need so many have died?

Many environmental and relief experts around the world say such natural disasters could be minimised and many lives now being lost could be saved.

Few expect that to happen. The list of requirements is long and probably most are impossible or distant hopes — efficient governments, lots and lots of money, and end to wars that

cause or exacerbate disasters.

"That's the Third World phenomenon — lack of resources, pulls and pressures from different sections of society. And political survival — who has the time to think logically about long-term solutions?" said professor V. Asthana, an environmental expert at a New Delhi University.

In both the Indian sub-continent and Northeast Africa a first answer that environmentalists say would diminish floods, curb erosion and improve agriculture is easy — trees.

Silt

Wood is life in most rural parts of these regions, where there is rarely an alternative fuel and populations are often growing at three per cent a year or more.

Without wood, food cannot be cooked. Trees are chopped down, hillsides denuded of cover, and they then retain less water. When the rains come, most of the water runs off, taking the topsoil with it.

Silt is deposited on riverbeds, which in a country like Bangladesh, essentially a flat alluvial land, means rivers become shallower and unable to hold as much water in their normal course, making floods more likely.

The International Union for

Conservation of Nature recently estimated that only four per cent of Pakistan was covered by trees.

"If Pakistan is not careful, it will turn itself into a desert," said one official.

In India, the figure is about 13 per cent. Environmentalists say anything less than 25 per cent is unhealthy.

They also believe that fewer trees means less reliable rains. Vast tracts of South Asia suffered three years of drought before this year's heavy rains.

"In Punjab," says Asthana, talking about the north Indian granary state, "the water table has dropped by 15 to 20 metres (50 to 65 feet) over the last decade. Pumping lowers the water table, the rains fail, no replenishment, so more pumping. It goes in a vicious cycle."

Trees

The same is true of sub-Saharan Africa, where the great desert expands yearly as more trees are felled. "One does not live in the Sahel in the ordinary sense of the word, one survives," said a United Nations official in the Ivory Coast.

In North Ethiopia, virtually all tree cover has been cleared, leading to erosion and a more erratic climate. The soil has been tilled to exhaustion.

To make things worse, rising

populations mean more grazing animals, which help bare the soil to the elements. But the disastrous droughts of 1973 and 1984 have galvanised some governments.

"Several governments are fighting the 'hand-out' attitude food aid can encourage and are incorporating 'living' with drought as a permanent factor in development planning and trying to encourage farmers to adapt to this reality," a United Nations aid official said in Abidjan.

Niger is nearing food self-sufficiency through an ambitious programme of irrigation and off-season crops, experts said.

But they said ecological damage to the Sahel could be curbed in the long-term only if a campaign to stop deforestation, over-grazing, over-cultivation and the southward advance of the desert could be pursued with vigour.

Corruption

Many such campaigns in developing regions suffer from ineffective governments and corruption, aid workers say, which is why Western countries are careful to allocate money directly to a project, not to a government.

Local relief efforts are more likely to line politicians' pockets, said an angry Sarojini Shungloo

of the Delhi Red Cross.

But for Shungloo, as for many other aid workers, it is the lack of long-term planning that frustrates most.

"Every year now we have flooding in Delhi. Every year the administration comes along and shifts the people who are growing watermelons on the banks of the Yamuna River, pays them Rs 250 (\$18) and gives them a few days worth of grain."

"But never anything permanent, never any alternative, never anything but a stopgap," Shungloo complained.

Asthana said: "Every storm hits thousands of people, sometimes tens of thousands. We know the paths these storms take, we know the risks, yet every time we respond the same way, just piecemeal. We really don't have disaster planning."

India, once a regular recipient of food aid, has organised a successful "green revolution" and is virtually self-sufficient now.

Crop

The floods that devastated Bangladesh and parts of north India will mean a bumper crop elsewhere after three failed monsoons. Similarly, in Sudan the floods that brought misery to thousands turned sandy tracts into lush, green pastures.

But political fights over rights to the waters of South Asian

rivers flowing across more than one country have meant little or no co-operation on anti-flood measures, say diplomats.

A decade ago, a scheme was proposed in India that might have diminished the possibility of the floods ravaging Bangladesh.

The idea was to build a canal along the Himalayas at 3,000 feet (1,000 metres) to trap waters before they hit the major rivers allowing them to be controlled, used for irrigation and power generation.

The canal would then be extended down the west coast of India, opening up arid Rajasthan state to agriculture.

"In engineering terms it is within the realm of possibility but it was so bold in terms of concept and investment that no one has ever talked about it seriously," said Asthana.

Diplomats said jealousy over water rights in Nepal, Bangladesh and India probably meant the idea died.

Problems

At least, for the last 17 years, the nations of the sub-continent have dealt with their problems peacefully.

In northeast Africa, however, strife has been a major contributor to making disasters worse, creating waves of refugees and hampering help.



Supporters of PLO press for new initiatives

By Joel Greenberg

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM: Supporters of the Palestine Liberation Organisation in the occupied territories are pressing the organisation for new initiatives in the wake of Jordan's disengagement from the West Bank.

"As much as the intifada has been daring, imaginative, and revolutionary, so the Palestinian leadership also provide a daring, imaginative and revolutionary peace initiative," Sari Nusseibeh, a philosophy professor at Bir Zeit University in the West Bank, said in a recent interview with the Palestinian newspaper Al-Fajr.

"We have the right to know what the PLO wants and we insist that the PLO make its position, whatever it is, clear and unambiguous," Nusseibeh said.

King Hussein's announcement to sever ties with the West Bank opens the field to the PLO to seek a co-ordinated policy with Jordan on an equal footing while working to "Palestinise" institutions in the West Bank that are currently linked to Amman, supporters of the organisation say.

According to a scenario painted by PLO supporters, international organisations such as the United Nations could be used as conduits for Palestinian funds for municipalities and other institutions currently supported by Jordan.

Meanwhile, they say, the PLO could follow a peace policy unencumbered by competition by Jordan for representation of the Palestinians.

The sense of enhanced legitimacy in the pro-PLO camp follows a concentrated effort by Palestinian nationalists in recent weeks to promote a more pragmatic approach to dialogue with Israel.

At the centre of the campaign are leading pro-PLO figures in the West Bank who cannot legally affiliate with the PLO but are nevertheless considered its unofficial representatives.

These local activists are understood to have been pressuring the PLO leadership to adopt more moderate stands regarding talks with Israel.

Their effort may have been behind the recent publication of a document by PLO official Bassem Abu Sharif in which he called for bilateral Palestinian-Israeli talks in an international conference and endorsed establishment of a Palestinian state beside Israel.

The document received strong support from the PLO backers in the West Bank, though it has not been formally endorsed by the organisation and was criticised by some of its officials.

Some observers have described the document as a product of the Palestinian uprising in the territories — a conciliatory statement made from a new position of strength.

Discussion

Recently, leading PLO supporters in the West Bank joined a public panel discussion with Israelis on the Abu Sharif document at a meeting sponsored by the Peace Now movement, which advocates Israeli-Palestinian talks based on mutual recognition.

A major speaker was Faisal Hussein, considered the leading PLO figure in the territories.

Hussein told the meeting that the basic principles of the Abu Sharif document were acceptable to the PLO, and that criticism of the paper in the organisation was more about style than substance. He endorsed the document, saying it was an elaboration of principles contained in resolutions of the Palestine National Council.

The Christian Science Monitor News Service.

Khaddafi dreams of making Libyan desert bloom

By Frances D'Emilio

BREGA, Libya, (AP): Libyan leader Moammar Khaddafi is pushing ahead with a daring bid to make his desert nation bloom by drawing water from the most unlikely of places: an aquifer deep beneath the Sahara.

Col Khaddafi's goal is to create a man-made river, a freshwater pipeline network stretching hundreds of kilometres (miles) from natural desert wells to parched cities on the rim of the Mediterranean Sea.

"Every single Libyan is waiting for water," said Othman Jaouda, a factory manager who is helping to make the concrete and steel pipe for what is being called the Great Manmade River Project.

It began with the discovery of fresh water by companies drilling for oil. They struck a water-bearing geologic formation 350 metres (1,150 feet) below the scorching desert.

In 1986, Col Khaddafi inaugurated the factory that builds the pipes and embarked on a project he has said will make Libya a "Garden of Eden" with new water supplies for drinking, farming and industry.

Scoff

Some foreigners working in Libya scoff at the idea such a project can accomplish Khaddafi's goal of agricultural self-sufficiency in a country nearly 680,000 miles square (1,762,000 kilometres square), 95 per cent of it desert and semidesert terrain.

Fears also are expressed that much of the water destined for farmland will instead be diverted to industrial use or for drinking water in coastal cities. One construction executive, speaking on

condition of anonymity, said the Libyans failed to produce all that was possible at a much smaller irrigation project in the desert near Sebha.

Nonetheless, Khaddafi seems to be sparing no expense.

"The Great Manmade River has been our dream long before and continues through the revolution," Khaddafi has proclaimed.

The first stage calls for 1,900 kilometres (1,180 miles) of pipe to carry 2 million cubic metres of water a day from wells in the central Libya to a reservoir near the Gulf of Sidra. Four more stages are planned.

Despite Libya's sagging oil revenues, the country is pressing ahead on the stage, at an estimated cost \$4.5 billion. About 450 kilometres (280 miles) of pipeline have been laid.

The section of the pipeline slices through a bleak terrain, broken occasionally by brush and date palms near oases where camels and goats graze.

Irrigate

The first water to flow from the project is to irrigate 100,000 hectares (247,000 acres) of farmland near the Mediterranean city of Benghazi. Libya's second largest city, said Jaouda.

Other stages call for natural well water in central west Libya to be delivered to Tripoli and a pipeline linking the Libyan capital with Sirte. Eventually a pipeline is to run from underground wells in Kufra, deep in the south. The last is to pipe water from as far east as Tobruk, near the border with Egypt.

If all five stages are completed, the plumbing system — if transported to Europe — would stretch from Switzerland through West Germany and

reach the northern tip of England.

Backers of the project envision a Libya that can grow enough of its own grains, vegetables and fruits to feed itself — something it hasn't yet been able to accomplish. There is even talk of exporting water.

Yet even Jaouda points out that the natural well supply may last only 50 years. He said the pipes, each weighing 72 tons and measuring 7.2 metres (23 feet) by 4 metres (13 feet) in diameter, will probably last longer.

Officials initially predicted that the first stage would be completed in 1989. Updated estimates set a target of 1991.

The South Korean construction company Dong-Ah has sent workers to lay the pipes. Jaouda blamed the Koreans' inexperience with desert terrain and harsh conditions for pushing back the timetable.

"It's not a (problem of) financing," Jaouda told reporters. "It's a problem of the project."

Libyan oil revenues are down sharply from the boom years of the late 1970s and the early 1980s when the project was planned. The 1980 oil revenue was \$22 billion, by 1987, it was only \$6.6 billion.

Resources

Diplomatic and business sources in Tripoli say that since the oil revenues declined, Libya has cut back dramatically on wide-scale projects as highway, school and hospital construction.

Libya is concentrating resources on its military, oil industry and its pipeline project, said the sources, who requested that they not be identified.

Jaruzelski hesitates to restore Solidarity

are under the Solidarity banner."

He estimated that 40 per cent of Poland's 12 million workers regarded Walesa as their leader. "Walesa and his followers are not the nation, nor society, but they are a very big and important factor in society," he said.

"To solve the problems of the Polish crisis we must have the understanding of the majority of the nation."

Deal

However, any restoration of Solidarity would have to be part of a deal on the overall needs of the economy including guarantees that the union would act as a responsible partner.

"We must have some guarantees that if Solidarity begins to live again it will not say no, no, no on every occasion and will not work against the unpopular economic steps that have to be taken," the source said.

Walesa accepts there were too many wildcat strikes in Solidarity's 1980-81 legal era, but he and other union leaders say a central factor in the unrest was the authorities' refusal ever to treat Solidarity as a genuine partner.

But the party source said the turbulence of Solidarity's 16 months of independent existence raised doubts that it could control labour unrest now.

"Walesa cannot say that when Solidarity begins to exist legally

again we shall not have 100 strikes in a short time that he cannot extinguish," he said.

The authorities would not allow such a situation to be repeated he added, stressing Jaruzelski's frequent statements that there can be no return to "anarchy" in Poland.

Cautious

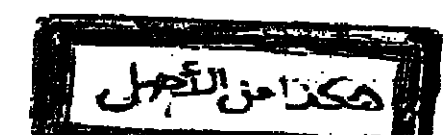
The source said Jaruzelski's cautious political style was helping to delay a decision on Solidarity's future and other major reforms.

"Jaruzelski has begun to love words too much and not real measures," he said. "He has been trying to solve problems with delays and half-measures, and so he implements good measures too little and too late."

"Now he is in a very complicated situation and he has to fight with himself to act quicker and take bigger steps. This is his problem."

A source close to the Catholic Church hierarchy said Jaruzelski was the kind of man who underwent a crisis before taking big decisions — and he appeared to be paralysed at the moment.

"People in his personal circle say he is in a state of depression now and no one knows how it will end," the source said, adding that Jaruzelski had handed over day-to-day handling of affairs to Interior Minister Czeslaw Kiszczak.



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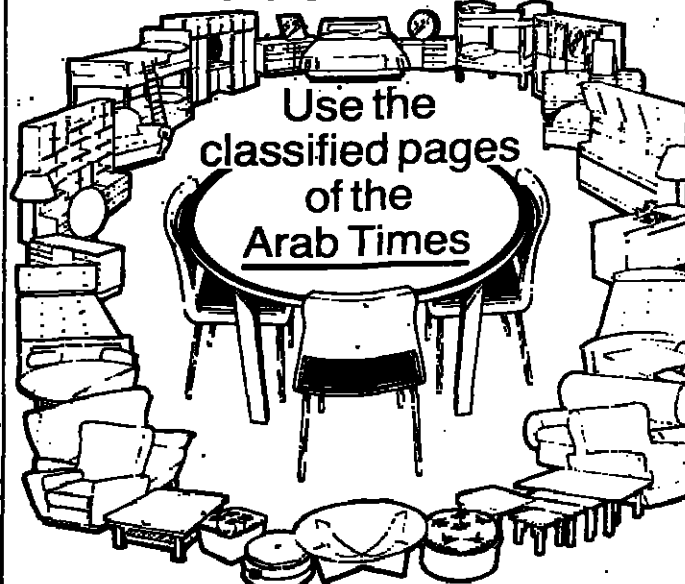
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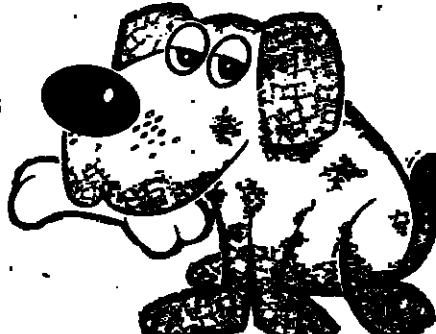
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MUSIC

LONDON, (AP): A Groovy Kind Of Love by Phil Collins stayed on in first place on the British pop singles record chart for a second straight week.

A re-release of He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother by the Hollies moved up to the number 2 spot, after making its first appearance in the top 10 in third spot last week. The song is currently being used in a British beer commercial.

Three newcomers jumped into the top 10, including 1 Quid, by Bros, which soared into fifth place in its first week on the chart.

UK top ten

This week's top 10 singles, as listed by Our Price Music Ltd., the national music retail chain, with last week's placings in parentheses:

1. (1) A Groovy Kind of Love — Phil Collins (Virgin).
2. (3) He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother — Hollies (EMI).
3. (4) Teardrops — Womack and Womack (Fourth and Broadway).
4. (16) Lovely Day (Sunshine Mix) — Bill Withers (CBS).
5. (—) I Quit — Bros (CBS).
6. (7) The Race — Yello (Mercury).
7. (2) The Only Way Is Up —

Phil Collins stays on top of UK chart

Yazz and the Plastic Population (Big Life).

8. (5) Megablaster — Don't Make Me Wait — Bomb the Bass (Rhythm King).

9. (6) The Harder I Try — Brother Beyond (Parlophone).

10. (13) Anything For You — Gloria Estefan and the Miami Sound Machine (Epic).

And in New York — Sweet Child O' Mine kept Guns 'n' Roses at the top of the single pop record charts in the United States for the second week.

Simply Irresistible by Robert Palmer hopped up one notch to second position on the Cash Box magazine chart. George Michael's Monkey slipped from second to third.

Climbing fast on the top 10 pop list was Don't Worry Be Happy by Bobby McFerrin, up from 11th to 7th. The week's only other newcomer to the list was Love Bites by Def Leppard, up from 17th to 10th.

As for the country-and-western singles, Holly Dunn's That

What Your Loves Does To Me took over the top of the Cash Box magazine chart. Steve Wariner's I Should Be With You was second, and Addicted by Dan Seals was third.

US top ten

The top 10 pop singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (1) Sweet Child O' Mine — Guns 'n' Roses (Geffen).
2. (3) Simply Irresistible — Robert Palmer (EMI-Manhattan).
3. (2) Monkey — George Michael (Columbia).
4. (4) Perfect World — Huey Lewis and The News (Chrysalis).
5. (7) If It Isn't Love — New Edition (MCA).
6. (9) I'll Always Love You — Taylor (Arista).
7. (11) Don't Worry Be Happy — Bobby McFerrin (EMI-Manhattan).
8. (8) When It's Love — Van Halen (Warner Brothers).
9. (10) Nobody's Fool (Theme From Caddyshack II) — Kenny Loggins (Columbia).
10. (17) Love Bites — Def Leppard (Mercury-Polygram).

The top 10 country-western singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (2) That's What Your Love Does To Me — Holly Dunn (MTM).
2. (4) I Should Be With You — Steve Wariner (MCA).
3. (6) Addicted — Dan Seals (Capitol).
4. (1) Joe Knows How To Live — Eddy Raven (RCA).
5. (8) We Believe In Happy Endings — Earl Thomas Conley with Emmylou Harris (RCA).
6. (9) Streets of Bakersfield — Dwight Yoakam and Buck Owens (Warner Brothers-Repertoire).
7. (7) Don't Give Candy to a Stranger — Larry Boone (Mercury).
8. (10) Honky Tonk Moon — Randy Travis (Warner Brothers).
9. (12) Untold Stories — Kathy Mattea (Mercury).
10. (11) Letter Home — The Forester Sisters (Warner Brothers).

Pink Floyd are back in the black

By Michael Hunt

ROCK legends Pink Floyd are finally back in the pink. More than 20 years after they first hit the charts and just six years after they nearly went bankrupt, they are set to take the world by storm again.

But although there will be only three superstar group members on stage — guitarist David Gilmour, drummer Nick Mason and pianist Rick Wright — they confidently predict they are going to be as big and as rich as ever.

For they are now on a sell-out tour of Britain after a series of blockbuster concerts in America.

Yet there is one man who does not want to see them play — or succeed. Robert Waters, one of the band's former members, would love to see them fail.

He wants to stop his ex-colleagues using the Pink Floyd name and is locked in, a bitter

legal battle with them.

Waters quit the band two years ago ... and has had to watch as the remaining members produced a top-selling album, A Momentary Lapse of Reason. Suddenly Mason, Gilmour and Wright found themselves besieged by fans ... and by a court action from Waters.

Yet after years of money problems and splits they are determined not to let anything interrupt their progress this time round.

Gilmour, a father-of-four and greying, says: "It has been pretty acrimonious and a bit of a saga — but it has long since stopped being anything we are terribly concerned about."

Pink Floyd are one of rock's most enduring and successful acts. They played their first concert in London in 1965 and since then they have sold an amazing 80 million records worldwide.

Their best-selling album was the phenomenally-successful

Dark Side of the Moon which, after 15 years, is still in America's top 100 albums chart. There is even a compact disc factory in Germany whose entire manufacturing output is copies of the 1973 album. And as an anthem: "We Don't Need No Education" was taken up by schoolchildren all over the world.

But it hasn't been a total success story. The enormously ambitious project The Wall, devised by Roger Waters, filmed by Alan Parker, played by Pink Floyd at four major venues was shelved due to its exorbitant cost.

Then Floyd faced bankruptcy after losing more than £2.5 million when City firm Norton Warburton crashed and left in its wake a host of tax problems. But as Mason recalls: "It's always a drag losing money, but you can't spend your whole life worrying about it. We've tried to shrug it off." The 1981 album The Wall cemented bet-

ter financial times.

But they have never been keen to talk about those troubled times — until now.

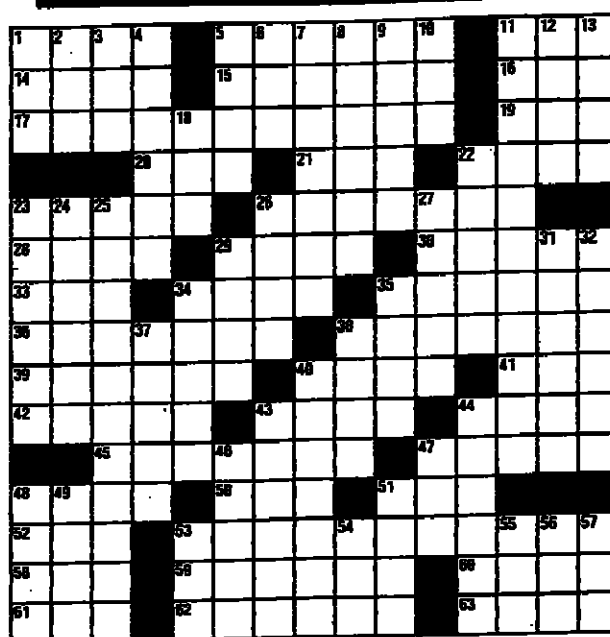
"We always thought the music said it all," says Gilmour. Roger Waters' decision to go solo and sue the band for using the Pink Floyd name has changed all that however.

According to rock mythology the name, after black blues singers Pink Anderson and Floyd Council, was revealed in a vision to original vocalist Syd Barrett.

The name was agreed on in 1967 by all the members of the band at the time: Syd Barrett, Roger Waters, Nick Mason and Rick Wright. Last year Roger Waters decided to walk, taking the name with him. But Nick, Rick and David (who took over from Syd Barrett) feel entitled to use the name too.

"We have three cases pending in the British courts, which will be heard at the end of the year," Gilmour reveals.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS
- 1 Sail support
 - 5 Halls
 - 11 Be under the weather
 - 14 German industrial area
 - 15 Part of HHH
 - 16 Govt. watchdog
 - 17 Hebrides pet
 - 19 Good sort
 - 20 A West
 - 21 Curve
 - 22 Fellow
 - 23 Pergola
 - 26 Special entertainment, in the
 - 28 Stand
 - 29 Antarctic sea
 - 30 Rector's residence
 - 33 They: Fr.
 - 34 "— Misbehavin' "
 - 35 Froth
 - 36 Renders powerless
 - 38 — non grata
 - 39 Famous tennis family
 - 40 Copper
 - 41 Naval initials
 - 42 Blind again
 - 43 Preserves
 - 44 Koko's weapon
 - 45 Michigan tulip town
 - 47 Mrs. Lincoln's family
 - 48 Photograph
 - 50 Merkel of the movies
 - 51 Corn unit
 - 52 Greek letter
 - 53 Belfast barker
 - 58 Piscivorous bird
 - 59 Of a fast period
 - 60 Noblemen
 - 61 Merry
 - 62 Perform in a think tank
 - 63 Man's best friends
- DOWN
- 1 Fern, title
 - 2 Diving bird
 - 3 Diffident
 - 4 Flutter
 - 5 Oriental butter
 - 6 Capek play
 - 7 Side by side
 - 8 Earthquakes
 - 9 Cue on a musical score
 - 10 Orchestra sec.
 - 11 Kabul canine
 - 12 Concept
 - 13 Electrical device
 - 18 Sea dog
 - 22 Converses, informally
 - 23 Resident
 - 24 Experience anew
 - 25 Horn player's pet
 - 26 Oceans
 - 27 Bright
 - 29 Borders
 - 31 Felt
 - 32 Wipes out
 - 34 Soviet cooperative
 - 35 Telescope part
 - 37 — of colors (dazzling)
 - 38 Be uncertain
 - 40 Card game
 - 43 Tooth or dog
 - 44 Arranged
 - 46 Enticed
 - 47 Inventor's monogram
 - 48 Mulligan, e.g.
 - 49 Fabled racer
 - 51 Thrall
 - 53 River into Lake Balkhash
 - 54 "All — up"
 - 55 Chinese truth
 - 56 Work unit
 - 57 Literary monogram

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NORTH	
♠ 9 8 6 3	
♥ K Q 8 4	
♦ A J 2	
♣ 8 7	
WEST	
♠ K J 4 2	
♥ 10 6 2	
♦ K 10 8 4	
♣ 6 4	
EAST	
♠ 7 5	
♥ J 9 3	
♦ Q 7	
♣ A J 10 9 3 2	
SOUTH	
♠ A Q 10	
♥ A 7 5	
♦ 9 6 5 3	
♣ K Q 5	

The bidding:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 2 ♣ Dbl
Pass Pass 3 NT Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Six of ♣
There are times when you just can't afford to cash all your winners in a suit. You may not know what you want to discard on your long cards.

This hand is from the Reisinger Team Championship at the recent Eastern States Regional in New York. North-South were employing 15-17 point no trump opening bids. When East made a lead-directing double of the Stayman inquiry, South was able to pass to indicate no four-card major and at least one stopper in clubs.

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MEIR	RETIRE	
MASSE	SOFT	ARIA
ANEW	STORY	LAIS
MILE	ESSE	SKEET
ALLEGRE	TEST	
TARP	AMIALE	
CHUMS	SUGARPLUM	
LARES	AYER	PANE
LAGAE	LENT	EDGE
MEETS	MAITS	LEER

Against three no trump West dutifully led a club. East inserted the nine and declarer, Chuck Lamprey of White Plains, N.Y., won. He crossed to dummy with the queen of hearts and finessed the ten of spades, losing to West's jack. East rose with the ace on the club return and cleared the suit. Declarer cashed the ace of hearts and continued with a heart to the king. That established the 13th heart, but declarer could not afford to cash it yet. We'll soon see why.

Another spade finesse lost to the king, and West shifted to a diamond. Declarer could not afford to duck, since it would be fatal to allow East to gain the lead. So he went up with the ace, in so doing apparently cutting himself off from the long spade in dummy. But now declarer's thoughtful play in not cashing the long heart bore fruit. He was able to take his winner, on which he jettisoned the ace of spades! As a result, declarer freed the table's two spades, bringing his trick total to nine—two spades, four hearts, one diamond and two clubs.

It's oh, so easy if only you foresee the problems!

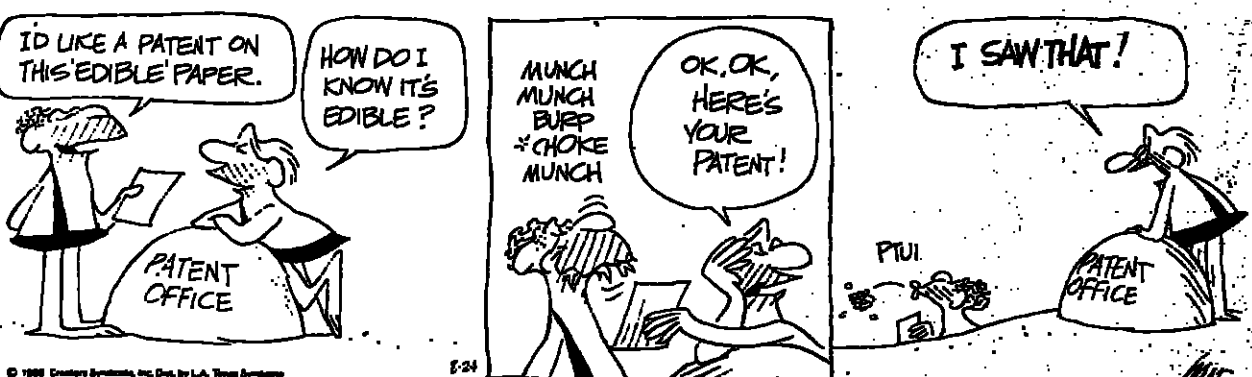


THE WIZARD OF ID

By Grant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You should take care you do not do anything you think your partner might not like. You should avoid getting into an argument. Do not be so quick to find fault. Be reasonable.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will be able to do something that you should have done some time ago. If you delay you may never get the chance again. Those in love should make sure they do not take love for granted. Be a little more flexible.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will be able to overcome a difficulty that has been dogging you. You should make sure you do not allow yourself to become sidetracked. Take a little more care about dealing with a personal matter. Be less intolerant.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You will succeed in finding your way through rather a complicated situation without coming to harm. You should do all you can to stay on good terms with someone who is quite close to you. Take a little better care when using the road. Be sensible.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You should not allow yourself to succumb to negative thoughts. Do not take things for granted but try harder to alter them in your favour. You should deal with a personal matter promptly. Be affectionate.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

You will be able to make a decision that you have been putting off until some more facts have come to light. The prospects are good but you must not think that all problems are solved for ever more. Make sure you keep your expenditure within sound limits.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

You will be better able to relax and should try to do so. Seek not to do anything that your partner would not approve of. There is no point in trying to do things by force just now. Be generous.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You will see the results of something you did some time ago and you will have good reason to be pleased with them. You should not try to do too many things today, instead do what is essential and then relax. Avoid being too possessive. Be a little more frugal.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You will have to be on your guard against quarrelling with someone close to you. You should take special care to avoid making mistakes. You should not think that you will be able to have your way in all things. Be more patient.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You are rather likely to be absent-minded and should therefore try to keep in mind things you are liable to forget. You have no cause to lose confidence in yourself. If you persevere with something you are learning you will succeed in the end. Be generous.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You will have a quite a few things to do and should try to be a little more methodical about doing them. You will be able to do something to please your partner and should do so even if it means going out of your way.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

You are liable to indulge in illusions and daydreams. Circumstances are not what you would like them to be but you will be able to adapt to them. You should not spend too much time dealing with trivial matters. Be observant.

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Seoul '88



Olympic Games

By Sahyon Joh

NEW YORK (AP): The Olympics, launched in ancient Greece to foster peace and friendship among city-states, have grown into the biggest sporting event of modern times despite two world wars, a massacre of athletes and a string of crippling boycotts.

The original Olympic Games flourished for more than 1,000 years starting in 776 B.C. when Greeks laid down their arms and left their political squabbles outside Olympia every four years and competed in the field just to see who could run faster, leap higher and throw farther.

But Roman Emperor Theodosius the Great, a fervent Christian, put an end to the Olympic movement in 394 A.D. when he ordered all Greek religious landmarks destroyed and banned pagan ceremonies.

Ever since the Olympics were revived in 1896 by Baron Pierre de Coubertin of France, world wars, scandals, political disputes and financial difficulties have plagued most of the modern Games.

Unlike the Greek city-states, nations have cancelled the Games to take up arms against each other. And between the two world wars, Adolf Hitler tried to turn the 1936 Olympics into a stage to glorify his Third Reich and a showcase of Aryan superiority.

Riots and a 'black-power salute' rocked the Mexico City Olympics in 1968, terrorists killed 11 athletes at Munich in

1972, and boycotts took the wind out of the subsequent Games at Montreal, Moscow and Los Angeles.

Possibility The possibility of another boycott and a threat of terrorist attacks hang over the 1988 Seoul Olympics as North Korea demands to be the co-host of the Games awarded to the capital city of its bitter political rival South Korea.

With history's largest and most expensive Games scheduled Sept 17 to Oct 2, sports officials and athletes wonder what is in store for them in Seoul as they look back at Olympics history.

The 1988 Summer Games are expected to attract more than 10,000 athletes from 161 nations.

Seoul is counting on its staging of the Games to mark the entry of South Korea, devastated in the 1950-53 Korean war, into the ranks of the world's advanced nations. It also is hoping its Olympic-related contacts with the communist nations, with whom it has no diplomatic relations, will help ease tensions in the region.

Here are some highlights of the past Games:

1896 Athens: 311 men but no women athletes representing 12 nations competed in nine sports. The quality of the athletes' performances was mediocre but the Games were regarded as a big success in terms of sportsmanship and spectators' enthusiasm.

1900 Paris: 1,319 men and 11 women from 22 countries competed in 17 sports in the second Olympics held in Baron de Coubertin's hometown. Many considered the Games a failure because of poor organization and low attendance.

1904 St. Louis: 681 men and six women from 12 nations competed in 14 sports spread over 4 1/2 months. The organizers turned out to be less competent than their Paris counterparts. Most European nations skipped the Games, and Baron de Coubertin didn't bother to attend.

1908 London: 1,999 men and 36 women from 22 countries competed in 21 sports. The Games had been scheduled to be held in Rome but the Italians backed out for financial reasons. The Games featured the first political disputes over national flags. The Soviets tried to stop the Finns from displaying the Finnish flag and the English did the same to the Irish. Competitions were marred by bickering over rules.

1912 Stockholm: 2,490 men and 57 women from 27 countries competed in 13 sports. Electric timing devices and a public address system were

East meets West in biggest Olympics ever

Faster, higher, stronger



The motto Citius, Altius, Fortius (faster, higher, stronger) was composed in 1895 by Henri Didon, a Dominican teacher and friend of Baron De Coubertin, founder of the modern Olympics. The aspirations it expresses have always been espoused by athletes.

used for the first time.

1916 Berlin: cancelled because of World War I.

1920 Antwerp: 2,543 men and 64 women from 29 nations competed in 21 sports. Belgium got the Games in recognition for its suffering during World War I. The losers of the war, Austria, Bulgaria, Germany, Hungary and Turkey, were not allowed to take part.

1924 Paris: 2,956 men and 136 women from 45 nations competed in 17 sports. Boxing and fencing events were marred by unruly crowds, and French fans booed during the playing of national anthems of other countries.

1928 Amsterdam: 2,724 men and 290 women from 46 countries competed in 14 sports. The boxing was disrupted by protests. For the first time, women took part in track and field events. Previously women competed in tennis, golf, archery, figure skating, yachting, swimming and fencing.

1932 Los Angeles: 1,281 men and 127 women from 37 countries competed in 14 sports. The number of participants was lowest since 1908 because of the Depression and the geographical isolation of California. Automatic timers and photo-finish cameras were used for the first time.

1936 Berlin: 3,738 men and 328 women from 49 countries competed in 19 sports. Hitler tried to use the Games to prove his theory of Aryan supremacy, but athletes such as Jesse Owens of the United States proved him wrong. The Games also saw the introduction of the torch relay from Olympia to the site of the current Games. Events were televised for the first time to theatres around Berlin.

1940 Tokyo-Helsinki: cancelled because of World War II.

1944 London: cancelled because of World War II.

1948 London: 3,714 men and 385 women from 59 countries competed in 17 sports. Germany and Japan were not invited. Several communist

countries, but not the Soviet Union, took part in the Olympics for the first time and the first cases of defecating athletes occurred.

1952 Helsinki: 4,407 men and 318 women from 69 countries competed in 17 sports. The Soviet Union competed for the first time and emerged as a sports superpower. The Games were hailed as a great success, prompting suggestions that they be held permanently in Scandinavia.

1956 Melbourne: 2,958 men and 384 women from 67 countries competed in 17 sports. The Games were hit by two boycotts: Egypt, Iraq and Lebanon withdrew to protest the Israeli-led takeover of the

Suez Canal — the Netherlands, Spain and Switzerland boycotted to protest the Soviet invasion of Hungary. The IOC convinced West and East Germany to enter a combined team, a practice that continued for the next two Olympics. The equestrian events were held in Stockholm because of Australian laws governing importation of horses. For the first time at the closing ceremony, athletes marched together instead of by nations to symbolise global unity.

1960 Rome: 4,738 men and 610 women from 84 nations competed in 17 sports. The Rome Games were held without major incident, although they were the last in which white-ruled South Africa was allowed to take part.

1964 Tokyo: 4,457 men and 683 women from 94 countries competed in 19 sports. Indonesia and North Korea withdrew from the Games because of a squabble with the IOC over Indonesia's ban on Israeli and Taiwanese athletes at a sports festival for emerging nations a year earlier in Jakarta.

1968 Mexico City: 4,750 men and 781 women from 113 nations competed in 18 sports. Before the Games began, government troops crushed student protesters with gunfire. The Games were marked by a 'black-power protest' by two US runners on the victory stand. Other controversies were the introduction of sex tests for women athletes and the rarified air of the high-altitude city that encouraged world records in short-distance races but handicapped many competitors in endurance events.

1972 Munich: 6,659 men and 1,171 women from 122 countries competed in 21 sports. Eight terrorists, demanding the release of 200 prisoners in Israel, attacked Israeli athletes in the Olympic village, killing two immediately. Subsequently, nine Israeli hostages, five

terrorists and one German policeman were killed in a ill-fated effort to free the captives. The Games were suspended for 34 hours, and a memorial service was held in the main stadium.

1976 Montreal: 4,915 men and 1,274 women from 92 countries competed in 21 sports. The Games were hit by a boycott of African nations demanding expulsion of New Zealand because a rugby team

from that nation had toured South Africa. The IOC said that controlling the travel of the rugby team was outside its authority.

1980 Moscow: 4,320 men and 1,192 women from 61 countries competed in 21 sports. The Olympics were disrupted by a boycott by the United States over the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. Sports powers Japan and West Germany were among the no-shows.

1984 Los Angeles: 5,458 men and 1,620 women from 140 countries competed in 21 sports. The Games were hit by a revenge boycott by the Soviet bloc.

China competed for the first time and did well.

There was no gold medal for the winner in the inaugural Olympiad in Athens: he received a diploma, a silver medal and a crown of olive branch. The medal was designed by the famous French sculptor Jules Chaplain

Where the Games will be played



Olympic Stadium
Capacity: 70,000
athletics, soccer & equestrian finals

Olympic Pool
Capacity: 10,000

Tennis Courts
Capacity: 15,000

Gymnasium
Capacity: 15,000

Gymnasium
Capacity: 15,000

Note: the Olympic Stadium and the Gymnasium are in the Seoul Sports Complex. The Pool, Gymnasium Hall and Tennis Courts are in the Olympic Park.

Sport is king

By Pierre De Coubertin

HOW can we doubt its royalty when we encounter so many dazzling proofs of it every day: and the most dazzling of all is the fact that, after an upheaval of incredible violence and amplitude, the modern Olympic Games have resumed their course immediately with a certitude of which antiquity provides no more striking example.

As we know, all royalty is exposed to danger, and the future of sport, crowned as it is by the favour of peoples and the enthusiasm of the young, is no exception.

For those of us who form, so to speak, its universal chancellor, it is important to ensure, to the very best of our ability, the perennity of its power, working all the while to enhance its effectiveness and prestige.

What are the elements that constitute the true solidarity of a throne?

Three elements enable sovereignty to be sure of tomorrow: steady work pursued with prudent boldness — an unfailing devotion to the ideal and disinterestedness — and finally, day-to-day adaptation to the collective good, the service of all.

Armed with these precious indications, we can go on to establish in a purposeful way the plan of a wise policy for sport.

The progress of sport has been uninterrupted since it regained its rightful place in the pedagogical sphere: its technical progress, above all. Let us only take care to ensure that the technical aspect does not prejudice the pedagogical one.

The latter requires that things be done with a certain discretion; it is not easily reconciled with fanfares and facades. It would not be progress (far from it!) if, confusing preparatory physical education with sports-based pedagogy — the latter being full of still unexploited resources — one were to create within the State organisations a mandarinate, examinations and full-time inspectors with yet another bureaucracy.

It would not be progress either, if, in the guise of promotion, an intensive publicity campaign in the press were to prepare the way for the wave of disavowal which inevitably follows the impact — always artificial — of fashion on opinion.

It would not be progress, finally, if a certain scientific pedantry were to invade this domain and if, in their concern to find an ideal method for the training of the muscles, sports instructors were to become the exclusive disciples of a physiological jacobinism, as much in love with discipline and uniformity as political jacobinism can be.

Sport needs freedom; it needs respect for individuality, the possibility for each person to adapt to the good or bad characteristics of his nature, those which help him and those which hold him back... What then is progress in sport? Which way should we take in order to achieve it? The answer is simple.

Let us work to facilitate the daily practice of sport, to create more and more favourable opportunities to encourage the individual, to remove pointless obstacles, to simplify complicated regulations.

Let us place the instrument of sport within the reach of everyone, let us keep working to improve it whilst keeping its costs low, let us try to bring the various sports yet closer together, combining them and enhancing them with the pleasure of their contrasts and the harmony of their similarities.

That is the horizon of activity which should attract us and which we can make for with complete confidence.

Extract from the opening speech of the XIXth IOC Session at the Antwerp Town Hall in 1920.



Hodori: the mascot of the Seoul Olympic Games 1988

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SEOUL OLYMPICS '88: AN ARAB TIMES SUPPLEMENT

Millionaires, amateurs will be equal in Seoul '88

For the first time in 64 years, tennis is back in the Games, and also for the first time it is bringing together millionaire professionals and impecunious amateurs — a move which has produced mixed reactions.

By Clare Fallon

LONDON. (Reuters): A stone's throw from Wimbledon champion Stefan Edberg's comfortable London home, a little-known Bermudan merchant banker practises tennis before setting out for South Korea and the Olympic Games.

Unlike Edberg, a favourite for the gold medal, Steve Alger has only modest ambitions in Seoul. But, for the Olympics at least, he is on equal terms with the great Swede.

Tennis is back in the Games for the first time in 64 years. And for the first time ever, it is bringing together millionaire professional and impecunious amateur — a move which has produced mixed reactions.

Enthusiasts say the rich professionals will be demonstrating true Olympic spirit by suspending their lucrative sponsors' contracts for two weeks and moving into the apartment blocks in the Olympic village along with lesser mortals.

Sceptics point out that an Olympic medal would greatly increase the earning power from sponsorship of the top players.

But for players like Alger, who earns his living in London's financial district and plays tennis at Queen's club, the Olympics do offer a unique chance to compete against the world's finest in a draw containing 11 of the 20 top-ranked men.

Besides Edberg, those present in Seoul will include



Stefan Edberg: the Wimbledon champion is set for gold at the Olympics

Swede Mats Wilander, American Tim Mayotte and Frenchman Henri Leconte.

The women's singles throws up the possibility of a little-known player like Julia Muir of Zimbabwe meeting world number one Steffi Graf, American Chris Evert or Argentina's Gabriela Sabatini.

The leading players going to Seoul have expressed unbounded enthusiasm for the return of tennis which was withdrawn from the Olympic programme after a row over the organisation of the sport at the 1924 Paris Games. Those unmoved by the Olympic spirit will simply stay away.

Edberg, who won the demonstration event which drew large crowds at the Los Angeles Games four years ago, said: "The Olympics were very special to me."

American Pam Shriver, the world number five, added: "I'm very excited because obviously the Olympics is the ultimate sports event. It is magic."

Some older players are coming along just for the thrill. India's popular Vijay Amritraj, a rich man from his film-making career, plans to make the Olympics his tennis swansong. "I can't wait to get to Seoul and begin to take in the Olympic atmosphere which everyone who has experienced it tells me is unbelievable," said Amritraj, 34, who is expected to carry his country's flag at the opening ceremony.

But former US Open champion Ken Rosewall of Australia was critical. "Allowing the richest of sportsmen to take part makes a mockery of the simple ideals of the Games,"

The International Tennis Federation (ITF), the sport's governing body, is confident that the Olympics will be remembered as a special event in the year's crowded tennis programme.

"I think there will be an interest," said Debbie Jarrett, the ITF's Olympic co-ordinator. "It is unique. You wouldn't get a Stefan Edberg playing a Yoo Jin-Sun (of South Korea) in the first round anywhere else."

Jarrett's optimism is backed up by the ticket sales for the four competitions — men's and women's singles and doubles — at the Olympic tennis stadium.

"The last three or four days are completely sold out and the rest are 80 per cent sold out," she said. "We are very happy with how things have gone."

Among the general euphoria, one sour note was the decision of several top players to stay away.

Some, like Czechoslovak-born Ivan Lendl and Hana Mandlikova who have moved to other countries, ran into



Steffi Graf, world number one, will be meeting a little-known player like Julia Muir of Zimbabwe.



Chris Evert: one of the millionaire players who will be competing in Seoul

problems over their nationality and had no chance to go to Seoul.

But others chose to miss the Games. Former Wimbledon

champion Pat Cash ignored the pleas of Australian officials, citing family and playing commitments.

Martina Navratilova, the world number two, felt the Grand Prix circuit was more important and could not fit the Olympics into her schedule.

She hopes to be in Barcelona in 1992 when she will be nearly 36, but perhaps only in the doubles.

ITF President Philippe Chatrier, while naming no individuals, admitted he was disappointed in some players.

"Not everyone seems yet to have fully absorbed the true meaning of the Olympic Games and, in particular, the tremendous impact it can ultimately have on the development of our sport," he said.

Britain's Kitty Godfree, who won five Olympic tennis medals in the 1920s and is making the long trip to watch the events in Seoul despite her 92 years, was more forthright in her criticism.

Told some leading players were not going, she said: "I think that is quite extraordinary. I think perhaps some of them are getting a little tired of playing."

Seoul smiles sweetly ... but language is a problem

By Lai Kwok Kin

SEOUL. (Reuters): Reporter: "Excuse me, could you tell me if you are cracking down on fake souvenirs?"

Korean policeman (looking bewildered): Welcome to Korea. You are very beautiful.

Reporter (Now looking as bewildered): "Huh? Never mind, thank you."

With the curtain rising on the Seoul Olympics, today foreign officials and journalists are finding language a potentially major problem in an otherwise immaculately planned sporting extravaganza.

South Korea, eager to make the 24th Olympiad a resounding success, has dazzled visiting athletes, officials and the media with warm smiles and superb facilities.

But visitors say they have experienced frustration getting around and trying to talk to organising officials who have only a weak grasp of foreign languages.

"Many people I have spoken to feel language is likely to

become a major problem when the Games begin," said a senior editor of a European news organisation who declined to be named. "It's not unknown to have people wearing 'I Speak English' badges who speak English that cannot be understood."

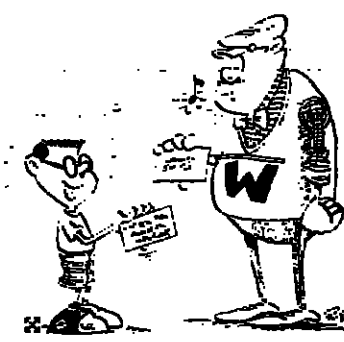
Drive

Korean officials embarked on a major education drive after U.S. found language was the biggest obstacle during the 1986 Asian Games here.

In the last two years, organisers have trained battalions of volunteers to speak dozens of languages. Seoul municipal authorities started their own campaign to teach basic English to the city's taxi drivers.

The campaign extends to the official Olympic newspaper, which offers daily language tips such as how to say: "The autumn sky here is really beautiful."

But the language barrier remains. Some journalists have resorted to hanging cards round their necks which list Korean versions of destinations such as Games sites and the red light district.



You Ji-Seong, an official at the Olympics language support centre, said about 10,000 Koreans volunteered to serve as interpreters but only about half passed a four-hour test.

The successful candidates were put through rigorous training by local and foreign language teachers in a programme that cost the government over 500 million Won (\$700,000).

The 5,600 volunteers, who cost organisers more than \$20,000 a day in allowances, back up 443 linguists hired to provide simultaneous translation during official conferences, you said.

"Language improvements take a lot of time. We are trying our best to solve this problem, but it is difficult to tackle it more satisfactorily," he said.

Even failure is profitable

Money is the name of the game

By Michael Calvin

BILL JOHNSON, the American skier, had his answer ready when asked what winning an Olympic gold medal in the downhill meant to him. "It means money, money, money," he said. "Millions."

His audience might have been offended by his forthright dismissal of the old Olympic amateur ideal but no one was surprised.

It is an accepted fact of sporting life that Olympic stars will be marketed with missionary zeal. Success guarantees financial security through sponsorships and other lucrative deals.

Ideology is no barrier: Katarina Witt, the East German skater who entranced a global television audience at the Winter Olympics in February, has just signed a \$1.5 million contract with an American ice dance show.

The sportsman who made the commercial breakthrough was Mark Spitz, an American swimmer who, with his rugged good looks and bushy mustache, resembled the tanned heroes of TV detective movies.

He took the seven gold medals he won in the Munich Olympics in 1972 to Madison Avenue and became a millionaire overnight. His face started out everywhere, from packets of breakfast cereal to huge billboards.

Failure

Now even failure in the Olympics is profitable. When Zola Budd accidentally tripped Mary Decker-Staney in the Los Angeles Games of 1984, a TV-funded rematch in 1985 earned Miss Budd \$90,000 and her American rival \$26,000.

Six-figure endorsement contracts for sportswear are commonplace among the stars. Carl Lewis, the American sprinter who emulated Jesse Owens by winning four gold medals in 1984, has his own line in leisure wear and has developed an alternative career as a pop singer. He admits: "I am in the entertainment business."

By Ken Franching

BOSTON. (UPI): Click, click. Turn that dial. Hit that remote button, and zip from channel to channel. Look for sport that will hold your interest.

For some of us, it's all but impossible. But as soon as the Olympic fanfare hits the airwaves, we're glued to the tube morning, noon and night.

What turns people who barely tolerate sports on TV into a bleary-eyed legion of Olympics watchers?

Psychologist, William Beausay Sr., president of the Academy for the Psychology of Sports International in Columbus, Ohio, attributes it to two factors: nationalism and society's constant need for heroes.

"There is a nationalism, a feeling of commitment," Beausay says. "The Olympics have some history, some tradition, their own flag. It's like we become citizens of a new nation for a while and all of the citizens love each other. The athletes love each other and party together."

As far as the hero phenomenon goes, Beausay says we all need models to pin our lives on.

"Believe me, in the last few years, there has been a real absence of heroes — of men and women that young people can identify with. Rock 'n' roll depleted the list. With the Olympics, there is a whole new crop of possibilities for us to follow, to mimic and learn from, he said. "When it's over with, the role models continue, if they've been the least bit successful."



Mark Spitz won seven gold medals in Munich (1972). The man has made a fortune out of his success endorsing products ranging from cereal foods to shaving kits.

Sebastian Coe, who will not be in Seoul because of the uncompromising British selectors, has become a millionaire through a supposedly amateur sport, although he warns of the "debilitating commercial pressures" when "everybody wants a piece of you just when all you are concerned with is achieving your goals in sport. Really, it's not promotion you need but protection."

"You can't turn your back on money. There is no way an athlete should, as long as it is not injurious to themselves or the sport. But, at the same time, if you are going to succeed, you must keep it at arm's length. You can't be devoured by it."

Times have clearly changed since the mid-Sixties when a long-distance athlete called John Tarrant was banned from the Olympics because he had won \$75 in a fairground boxing booth.

But by then amateurism had long been transformed into shamateurism. Administrators used to court sponsors while simultaneously banning competitors from profiting from advertising.

The change came in 1981

when a special congress of the International Amateur Athletic Federation altered its eligibility rule so that competitors might channel their earnings from endorsements into a trust fund. Under the scheme, athletes can draw expenses, such as mortgages, car purchases and food, from the fund while they are competing. (When they retire the money simply becomes theirs).

Pretence

While this arrangement helps maintain the pretence of sport being something other than a business, it is, in the words of the Olympic expert Bob Giegengack, a Yale professor, rather like saying "let's all be a little bit pregnant."

Money is increasingly the name of the game, Coe admits. "I do think that we may have helped create a monster. The people of my generation still have it in perspective. But maybe we've changed it for others. Maybe we're leaving behind a world where competing for money becomes more important than an Olympic gold medal."



Glued to the tube

What turns people who barely tolerate sports on TV into a bleary-eyed legion of Olympic watchers? A psychologist gives his explanation

successful. "The public relations people know that very well and capitalize on it to the tune of millions of dollars. Pole vaulter Bob Seagrass is still making money for his agent and himself — and he goes back to the 1960s. If they're real good models, they've got some staying power."

In terms of pure sport interest, Beausay said something different draws folks to the Olympics coverage who ignore professional sports all year long.

"It comes down to winning, and a gold medal to prove it. That international standing. There's something about being world class that makes a league championship pale in significance," Beausay said.

Thomas Tutko, a psychology professor at San Jose State University in California and in expert on emotional involvement with sporting events, says the 1988 Summer

Olympics in Seoul, South Korea, Sept 17 to Oct 2, will have drawing power that was missing in 1980 and 1984.

"The political threat adds some intrigue. The potential of the students rioting and disrupting the Olympics adds a little tension for the viewer," Tutko said.

"Plus, the Los Angeles Games (in 1984) started the global nationalism feeling. The US boycotted the Moscow Olympics in 1980 and the Russians boycotted Los Angeles. It will be the first time in 12 years that the US really has met head-on with the Russians in every sport. There is an excitement about this head-on meeting."

Tutko calls the Olympics a "very very unique" form of entertainment that reaches far beyond the realm of sports couch potatoes.

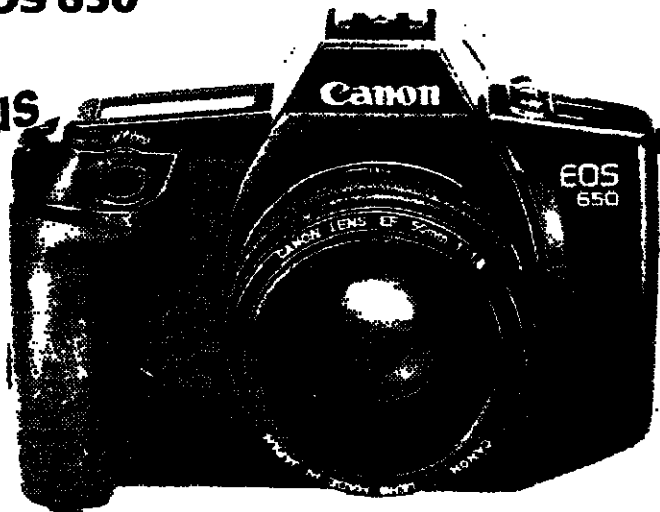
"The Olympics are like a TV mini-series," Tutko said. "In a very short time you find out who the world's best are."

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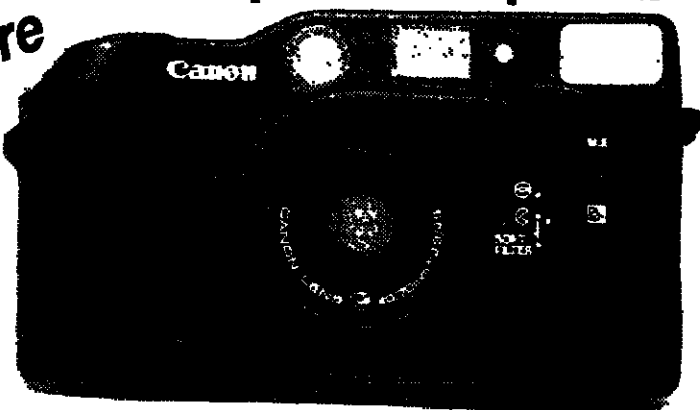
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مركز من التجول

USA, USSR and East Germany expected to lead medals table

East, West, South, North compete for supremacy

Smaller countries have their Olympic hopes, but as the curtain rises on the Olympic Games today, attention focuses on the biggest confrontation between the Eastern bloc countries and the West in 12 years.

By Phil Brown

SEOUL, South Korea (AP): The host South Koreans want their shooters to capture one of the first gold medals, and African runners covet the last, in the exhausting marathon. In between, attention focuses on the first East-West Olympic confrontation in 12 years.

When the biggest Summer Games ever open today more than 10,000 athletes from 160 nations are expected to battle for 237 gold medals in 23 sports, from archery to yachting.

The top three places in the medal standings are considered reserved for the hosts of two somewhat unfulfilling Olympics in 1980 and 1984, the Soviet Union and the United States — and the East German "machine."

The East Germans, who develop their athletes in secrecy-shrouded special schools, don't bring anyone they consider unlikely to win a medal, and they have plenty of people to bring.

Two new Olympic sports, meanwhile, give some others a

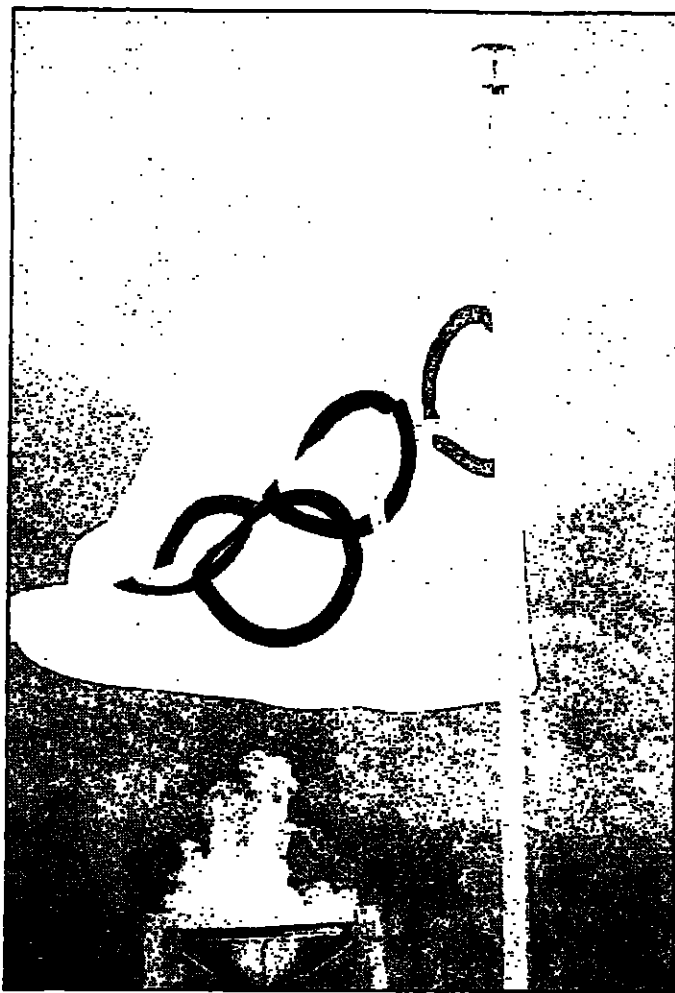
chance. In tennis, actually an old sport returning to the Olympics after 64 years, the dominant figure is West Germany's Steffi Graf. Table tennis has become a game of the Asians, who are hosts to the Summer Games for only the second time. Tokyo was host in 1964.

In the test of all-round athletic skill, the decathlon. Britain's Daley Thompson seeks an unprecedented third straight Olympic gold medal.

The contest for world's fastest human pits an American who already has left a bold mark on the Olympics, Carl Lewis, against a Canadian who holds the world record, Ben Johnson.

Defend

If Lewis wins, he will be the first sprinter to defend his Olympic championship. He now is in the record books as one of only three men ever to win four golds in track and field in one Olympics. His 1984 triumphs were in the 100 and 200-metre dashes, the long jump and with the US 4x100-metre relay team.



The Olympic flag became part and parcel of the Olympiad in Antwerp, 1920.

The Americans were run-away winners in the 1984 Los Angeles Games, with 174 medals including 83 gold. But the Soviets, East Germans and most of their communist allies were not there, claiming insufficient security.

The United States and many other nations had boycotted the 1980 Games in Moscow in protest against the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

In 1976, the last full East-West meeting in the Summer Games, the Soviets won 125 medals including 49 gold while the United States had 94 medals. The East Germans beat the Americans in gold, 40 to 34, but finished third in total medals with 90.

hope for about 100 medals, 50 of them gold.

The Soviets "expect our share of medals in all sports, but we will have to fight for them, and not just against the Americans, but against our comrades from (East Germany)," said Soviet deputy sports minister Anatoly Kolesov.

"Many have waited 10 or more years for this opportunity," he said of the long break between US-Soviet Olympic battles.

Mike Moran, US Olympic committee spokesman, said, "this will be the best Olympic team we have put together. ... we're going to be right in there with the Soviets and the East Germans."

American strengths are in track and field, swimming, diving, basketball, boxing, freestyle wrestling, volleyball and water polo, among the swimmers. Matt Biondi will compete in seven events, trying to equal Mark Spitz' gold medal mark from the 1972 Games, and Janet Evans holds the world records in the 400-, 800- and 1,500-metre freestyle races. Diver Greg Louganis faces tough competition from the Chinese.

The Soviets also have a number of likely winners in track and field, where 42 golds will be decided. They include world record holders Sergei Bubka in the pole vault and Yuri Sedykh, a two-time Olympic hammer throw champion.

But in the 1987 track and field World Championships, the East Germans won the most medals, 31, and the most golds, 10. They also have a powerful women's swimming team.

Winners

The Soviets and East Germans, along with the Romanians and Chinese, are likely winners in gymnastics.

And the East Germans have muscle in boxing, cycling, rowing and handball.

On the West German side, tennis stands out, with Graf considered a good bet for the women's gold.

In swimming, Michael Gross, the "Albatross," in 1984 became the first West German swimmer to win Olympic gold medals, setting world records in the 100-metre butterfly and 200-metre freestyle. He is a contender again, along with freestyler Rainer Henkel.

The West Germans also are strong in soccer, where Argentina and Brazil also hope to win medals, despite problems with professional teams holding on to some of those nation's best players.

The West Germans aim for about 30 medals this time, down from their second-place 59 in 1984. They had 17 golds in Los Angeles, behind only the United States' 83 and Romania's 20.

Also battling for places in the top 10 are host South Korea and budding sports power China. Japan, long the region's sports leader, faces the prospect of its worst showing in 24 years.

All three finished in the top 11 in 1984, when China won 15 gold medals, Japan 10 and South Korea six.

South Korea hopes to be on the medal charts by the third day of competition, when Kwak Jung-Hoon competes in the men's small-bore rifle competition. It also is counting on medals in judo, wrestling, boxing, archery and table tennis.

The Chinese estimate they could take eight to 12 golds and match their overall medal total of 32 in 1984, when they made their first full-scale entry in the summer games.

They have world-class divers and gymnasts, the defending champions in women's volleyball and two world record holders in weightlifting.

Japan's prospects are for only about half a dozen gold, with hopes concentrated on the Japanese martial art of judo and on the marathon, in which Takeyuki Nakayama is one of the world's fastest.

Dominance

But Africa could dominate the marathon, even without world record holder Belayneh Dinsamo of Ethiopia, one of six nations not entering the Games in Seoul.

Kenya is sending Ibrahim Hussein, winner of the 1987 New York and 1988 Boston marathons and Douglas Wakihuri, Djibouti is sending former world champion Ahmed Saïh and Tanzania's entry is Juma Ikaanga, who was second in Boston.

The world 1,500-metre champion is Abd Bile of Somalia, and Said Aouita of Morocco won two of Africa's three golds from the 1984 Summer Games, winning the 800- and 5,000-metre races.

The marathon runners will be guarded by commandos in armoured limousines, just part of a security force of more than



Synchronised swimming, called the water ballet, is one of the increasing number of events added to the Olympic card.

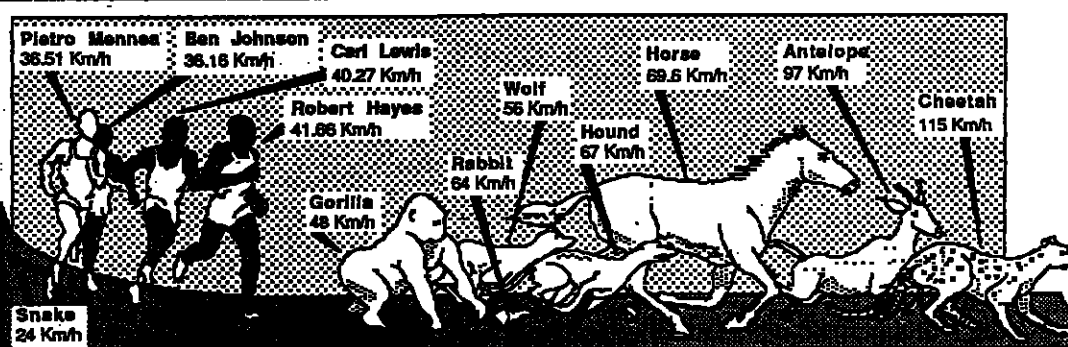
100,000 assembled to prevent any possible terrorism by rival North Korea or other groups trying to seize world attention at the Olympics. Troops with automatic weapons guard the athletes village and the airport, and spectators all must pass through metal detectors and hand baggage inspections.

North Korea has said it will

boycott the Games unless it is made a co-host.

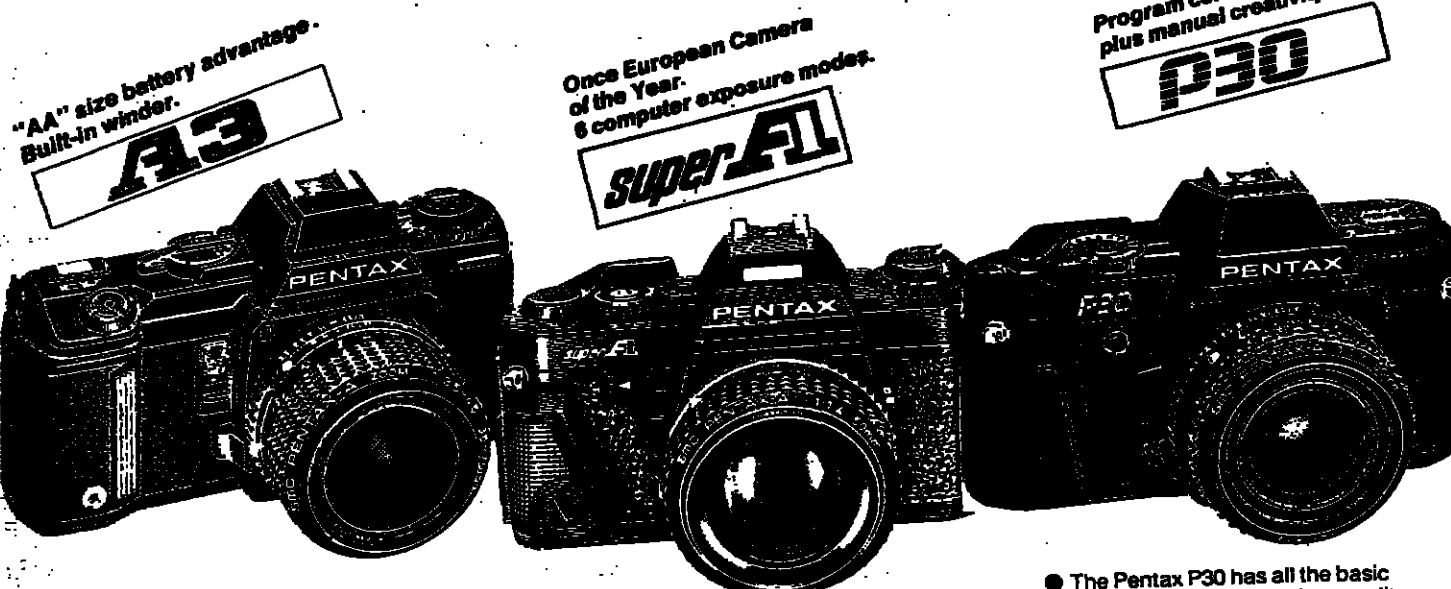
The International Olympic Committee holds that only one city can be host. And that city — Seoul — has spent some \$3.1 billion getting ready, including 1.4 billion dollars on such projects as subway and airport expansion and a cleanup of the city's major river, the Han.

Speed:
man
trails
the
animals



Man is a poor runner in comparison with the animals as this chart shows.

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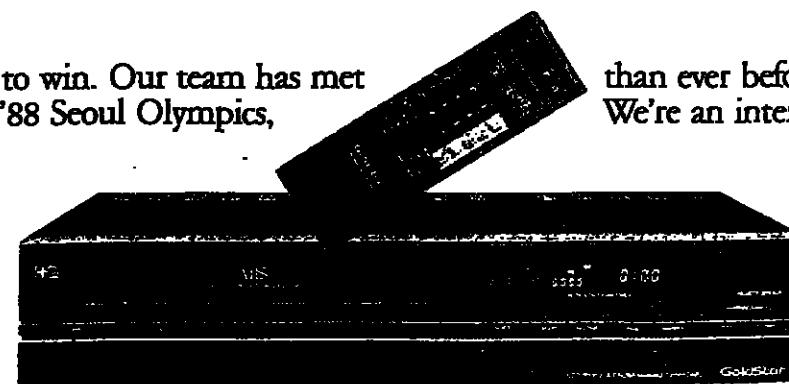
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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Experts to discuss world economic crisis

VIENNA, Sept 16, (OPECNA): The world 10 years after the Brandt report will be the theme of a conference here this month. The three-day gathering of statesmen and economists which opens here on Sept 29 will also deal with the crisis in the global economic system and consider steps which need to be taken so that a world economic crisis can be averted in the 1990s.

The conference organised by the Vienna Institute of Development and Co-operation comes 10 years after the Brandt Commission report, which called for a crusade against under-development and its causes.

The meeting will be opened by Dr Bruno Kreisky, former Austrian federal chancellor and president of the institute. The opening session will be addressed by Kreisky and former West German federal chancellor Willy Brandt.

On the second day, Norwegian Prime Minister Mrs Gro Harlem Brundtland will speak on "population and environment," followed by Declan J. Walton, a former deputy director-general of the food and agriculture organisation, on hunger and food.

Other speeches will be devoted to international commodity problems and policies, the role of trade and industry in development and disarmament and development.

The world monetary and financial system will be reviewed by Ms Christine E. Bogdanowicz-Bindert, senior vice-president of Shearson Lehman Brothers, to be followed by lectures on the tasks facing the south, resources for development, North-South dialogue and commodity trade and development.

Noted Arab economist Samir Amin will present a paper on the role of trade and industry in development, while Yugoslavian economist Dragoslav Stokich will speak on commodity trade and development.

Venezuela's oil industry nets \$4b in revenues

CARACAS, Sept 16, (OPECNA): Venezuela's petroleum industry has generated more than \$4 billion in revenues in the first half of this year, according to Minister of Energy and Mines Julio Cesar Gil.

Addressing a news conference here yesterday, following an extraordinary meeting of Petroleos de Venezuela (PDVSA), the state oil company, he said that the industry's exports during the six-month period averaged 1.59 million BPD of both crude and products at an average price of \$13.83 a barrel.

He said that 57 per cent of the exports went to the United States, 18 per cent to Central America and the Caribbean, seven per cent to other Latin American countries, 13 per cent to Europe and the remainder to other destinations.

Production

He said production, including condensate and natural gas, averaged 1.97 million BPD during the January-June period. According to Gil, crude reserves, including condensate, totalled 57.94 billion barrels, while the figure for natural gas was about 2.80 billion cu. metres.

Venezuela's refineries processed an average of 884,000 BPD of crude during the six months, while 450,000 BPD of Venezuelan crudes were processed at part-Venezuelan-owned refineries in the US, Sweden and West Germany.

Austria, Turkey to sign investment promotion pact

ANKARA, Sept 16, (Reuters): Austria and Turkey will sign an investment promotion and protection agreement when Austrian Vice-Chancellor Alois Mock visits Ankara this week, official sources said today.

Mock, also Foreign Minister, will meet President Kenan Evren, Deputy Prime Minister Kaya Erdem and Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz during the three-day visit starting on Thursday.

A delegation of businessmen will accompany him. Turkish exports to Austria last year, including textiles and raw materials, totalled \$188 million. Imports of machinery and other goods were worth \$192 million.

Pipeline would bring Baghdad's export capacity to 3.5m BPD

Iraq won't cut oil output

IRAQ's oil minister was quoted on Thursday as saying his country would not reduce its oil output because it needed the revenue to rebuild after the eight-year war with Iran.

In an interview with a Kuwaiti daily Issam Abdul-Rahim Al Chalabi said Iraq would not consider curbing output until the completion of a new pipeline through Saudi Arabia in 1989. The pipeline would bring Baghdad's export capacity to 3.5 million barrels per day (BPD).

Production
The newspaper said Chalabi "affirmed his country will never agree not to increase production until the completion of the second phase of the oil pipeline

across Saudi Arabia." Chalabi rejected suggestions that high oil output by his country, a member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), was behind the recent fall in world oil prices.

Highest
"We have sacrificed a lot and lost a lot during the years of the war... and we are not ready to sacrifice more," Chalabi said, referring to the closure of its main Gulf oil export terminals early in the conflict.

Since December 1986, Iraq has rejected OPEC production controls, demanding a quota equal to that of its war foe Iran.

Output has soared to around 2.7 million BPD, the second

highest in the 13-nation group after Saudi Arabia.

"Our country has special circumstances for construction and debt settlement which must be taken into consideration," he said.

Iraq has foreign debts bankers estimate as high as \$65 billion. A world oil glut, to which high Iraqi oil output has contributed, has pushed prices some \$4 below OPEC's official reference level of \$18 a barrel.

But Chalabi denied Iraqi responsibility. "Iraq has no relation with the deterioration of prices in OPEC. The clamour raised about this subject is nothing more than a campaign since Iraqi production

has not changed during the time that prices have fallen by 30 per cent."

He said quota violations by other OPEC members and non-OPEC output had caused the glut.

Sanctions
Chalabi said proposed US economic sanctions against Iraq, including a ban on imports of Iraqi oil, would have no effect on the country.

The Senate last week voted to impose the sanctions for alleged Iraqi use of poison gas against Kurdish rebels, a charge Iraq denies.

"Iraq will find substitute oil markets," he said.

Chalabi said OPEC secretary-

general Subroto had not presented any new proposals on the oil market during his recent visit to Baghdad as part of a tour of OPEC states.

He said he had told Subroto, "calculate what we have lost from our quota. Iraq must be compensated."

Prices had weakened since the beginning of the month because of excess production by members of the OPEC organisation.

Calls for restraint in production from Saudi Arabia helped a rally early this week.

Spot prices advanced further on Wednesday when OPEC said its five-nation pricing committee would meet on September 25 to discuss tackling the present glut.

Western Europe, Asia and US score gains

Third World debt remains trouble spot in '88: IMF

WASHINGTON, Sept 16, (AP): Third World countries' failure to make headway in reducing their debt is the main cloud over the world economy, but Western Europe, Asia and the United States have scored gains, the International Monetary Fund said yesterday.

"Much of 1987 and the first part of 1988 were characterised by continued expansion in world output and trade," the 151-nation, Washington-based organisation said in its annual report.

But, it said, "There is no room for complacency."

The IMF said that besides indebtedness primarily in Africa and Latin America, other concerns are:

- the trade deficit and foreign debt of the United States.
- the lack of economic growth in Africa.
- the return to high inflation in Latin America.

The total debt of the developing countries increased 40.4 per

cent in 1987 to \$1.2 trillion, compared with \$1.1 trillion in 1986, the report said.

Governments and international organisations like the IMF loaned about \$34 billion to developing countries during the year, while private lenders like commercial banks were "virtually drying up" as a source of needed new loans, the report said.

New private lending totalled \$8 billion, far short of the \$43 billion still needed by the developing countries, it said.

On the positive side, "real output in the industrial countries expanded by over 3 per cent in 1987, somewhat faster than in 1986," the IMF said.

Value

Efforts by the United States and its allies to reduce the value of the dollar and increase other currencies like the yen and the mark have paid off in helping to reduce the US trade deficit, the IMF said. And it singled out Japan for undertaking reforms

to stimulate domestic demand.

The moves have increased imports in Japan and West Germany, but dampened demand for imports in the United States, it said. The US dollar dropped 13 per cent between February 1987 and April 1988, bringing it near its previous lows of 1978. By mid-1988, however, the dollar had stopped dropping and had begun rising, it said.

Still, the US "current account" deficit, covering the broadest measure of trade including merchandise and services, widened from \$139 billion to \$154 billion in 1987.

This was due in part to increased payments of interest and dividends on US government and private debt to foreigners. Declines in the US trade deficit this year, however, have begun to reduce the current account deficit in relation to the US gross national product, it said.

In the developing world, especially among the newly

industrialised economies of East Asia, "many countries have benefited from vigorous export growth," the report said.

"Nonetheless," it said, "... the average growth rate in the developing countries fell from 4.2 per cent in 1986 to 3.4 per cent in 1987." This was due in part to stagnation in oil exporting countries, where increasing oil prices were offset by higher prices for those countries' imports.

Rise

In sub-Saharan Africa, the rise in output remained below the rate of population growth, meaning living standards continued to erode in those countries. Average living standards there have fallen by more than 20 per cent since 1981, it said.

To make matters worse, prices for sub-Saharan exports remained weak.

"The purchasing power of these countries' exports eroded further and was 9 per cent lower in 1987 than in 1980," the IMF said.

Economic reforms have stimulated output in China, but they have been accompanied by greater inflationary pressures, it said.

Upturn

A sharp upturn in inflation in Brazil helped slow economic growth in the Western hemisphere, the IMF said. But economic activity revived in Mexico despite earlier declines in prices for its oil exports because non-oil exports increased strongly.

For the Western hemisphere as a whole, consumer prices rose 131 per cent for the year, compared with 30 per cent for Europe, 25.7 per cent for sub-Saharan Africa and 8.8 per cent for Asia.

"In Italy and the United Kingdom, price and wage increases, although much lower than in the early 1980s, have remained somewhat higher than in their trade partner countries," it said. "In Japan and the Federal Republic of Germany prices remained essentially stable in 1987."

Egypt mounts new drive for Western support over its debts

CAIRO, Sept 16, (Reuters): Egypt mounted a new campaign yesterday for Western support in tackling its economic problems and President Hosni Mubarak prepared quick visits to London and Paris.

Mubarak planned talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and French President Francois Mitterrand this month, Egyptian officials and European diplomats said.

Supporter

News of his planned mission broke as Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel-Maguid urged ambassadors of the seven leading industrial states to continue backing Egypt in slow-moving negotiations on International Monetary Fund (IMF) help and debt rescheduling.

Mubarak was expected to travel to Europe before annual International Monetary Fund-World Bank meetings starting in West Berlin next Thursday, one diplomat said.

The president, who views the European Community as a chief supporter of his economic reform efforts, may also visit Italy and West Germany.

Diplomats said Middle East issues were likely to figure in his talks with European leaders but

the driving force behind his trip was economic one.

After inconclusive Egypt-IMF talks last week on a new standby accord, Mubarak attacked the fund as a "quack-doctor" who prescribed "a huge dose of medicine in one go instead of a daily pill."

Since seeking IMF help for Egypt's debt-burdened economy, he has insisted on gradually raising prices rather than swift surgical action which could provoke riots.

The IMF wants Cairo to further slash its five billion-pound (\$2.2 billion) budget deficit, increase domestic interest rates and raise prices for state-subsidised fuel and food.

Accord

As new IMF accord is vital backing for an expected Egyptian request to Paris Club of creditor governments for rescheduling at least \$5 billion of official debt instalments due between last July 1 and the end of 1989.

Egypt rescheduled payments of more than \$6 billion on its \$43 billion foreign debt up to the end of last June.

The government has not announced plans to reschedule again, but ministers say privately

that it has no alternative.

Central Bank Governor Mohammed Salahuddin Hamid and Minister of State for Economic Cooperation Morris Makramallah aided Abdel-Maguid in his talks with ambassadors of Britain, Canada, France, Italy, Japan, the United States and West Germany.

Abdel-Maguid said he sought their support in Egypt's talks with the IMF and rescheduling. He disclosed no details.

Negotiations

IMF officials are expected to continue negotiations next month after Hamid and government ministers underline Egypt's case for gradual action at the West Berlin meetings and present a special policy document.

Mubarak's assiduous cultivation of Western support on the IMF issue has borne fruit in the past, and Western officials said exceptionally soft terms granted to Egypt by the IMF in May 1987 were largely due to his personal diplomacy.

He combined economic talks with launching a Middle East peace initiative when he visited Western Europe and Washington last January.

Economy is overheating

Britain announces 5.7pc inflation

LONDON, Sept 16, (Reuters): Britain announced today its inflation rate was running at 5.7 per cent for the year to August in a further sign that the economy is overheating.

The official retail price index showed price rises of 1.1 per cent in August, against July. The annual figure compared with a rise of 4.8 per cent for the year ending in July.

Conservative Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson, accused by the opposition Labour Party of allowing the economy to overheat seriously, had predicted a short rise in inflation early this week. But he described it as a "temporary blip".

Reaction

The British rate of 5.7 per cent compared with just over four per cent inflation in the United States and one per cent in West Germany.

London shares were marked down ahead of the announcement but rallied a bit when the figure turned out no worse than expected. By midday, the FTSE

index of 100 British blue chip stocks was down just 6.6 points at 1,762.7.

The pound sterling showed little reaction, trading around \$1.6780. Markets had discounted the news after Lawson predicted that inflation would be higher.

Lawson insists the British economy is fundamentally strong.

While inflation is above the West European average, so is Britain's growth rate of around three per cent.

But Lawson has been criticised over sharp rises he has had to make in interest rates to try to pinch off an inflationary boom in consumer spending, and over a widening gap in Britain's foreign trade as the boom has sucked in imports.

The chancellor said on Wednesday that current price rises largely reflect increases in mortgage (home loan) costs, raised as bank base lending rates have been put up to 12 per cent.

But the spending boom has

opened up a trade gap that is expected to reach £12 billion (\$20 billion) this year, compared with an original Lawson forecast of £4 billion (\$7 billion).

Unemployment figures have improved with the number of jobless falling in August for the 25th consecutive month to a seasonally-adjusted level of 2,267,000, or eight per cent.

But analysts say the fall could produce shortages of labour in some specialised areas and help fuel further wage rises.

The August inflation rate was the worst since December, 1985. Employment Secretary Norman Fowler told reporters that three-quarters of the monthly increase was due to the rise in home loan rates, now around 13 per cent.

Other factors included dearer cars and higher food prices.

World and domestic factors suggest next month's figures could also be poor. A US harvest hit by drought could push up wheat prices and increases on domestic coal are scheduled.

World Business Summary

Conference to discuss oil glut and price crisis

SINGAPORE, Sept 16, (Reuters): Senior officials from international oil companies and oil producing countries will discuss next week measures to stabilise prices ahead of a key OPEC price committee meeting. Sources close to the Asia-Pacific petroleum conference starting on Monday said yesterday that the OPEC committee meeting, called to discuss the crisis caused by a glut in world oil markets, would be the focus of the conference. The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries' five-member price committee is widely expected to meet in Bali, Indonesia, on September 25 and 26. About 1,000 oil industry executives, including officials from some oil producing nations, will attend the three-day conference in Singapore. OPEC president and Nigerian Oil Minister Rukman Lukan is expected to call for greater unity and discipline in the 13-member OPEC to deter erring members from flooding the mandated price and production quotas, the sources said. Lukan's mity call is likely to be endorsed by Egypt's Minister of Petroleum Abdel-Hadi Kandeel and Saudi Prince Abdul Aziz Bin Salman Bin Saud, an aide to powerful Saudi Arabai Oil Minister Hisham Nazer. The key officials are expected to hold informal talks on a programme to reduce the oil glut during the conference. Spot prices of Mideast crudes fell recently to two-year lows of some five to \$6 below OPEC's reference price of \$18 a barrel, because of the group's inability to rein in over-production among some of its members.

But prices rebounded by 60 cents on Wednesday after news broke that the price committee would meet after next week's conference deliberations. Lukan warned this week prices could fall to \$9 a barrel, as happened two years ago, if some OPEC members continue to over-produce and cheat on the production quotas.

US retail sales drop

WASHINGTON, Sept 16, (Reuters): US retail sales fell 0.2 per cent in August, the first decline in four months, after rising a modest 0.1 per cent in July, the Commerce Department said yesterday. The dip, which contrasted with expectations on Wall Street of a 0.3 per cent increase, provided further evidence of a slowdown in consumer spending that is curbing imports and reducing the nation's trade deficit, economists said. The government reported on Wednesday that the US trade deficit fell 28 per cent in July to a three-and-a-half year low of \$9.53 billion, mainly because of a sharp decline in imports. The softness in retail sales was welcome news to US economic policymakers as they prepared for an important round of meetings with their counterparts next week in West Berlin. America's trading partners, and neutral observers such as the International Monetary Fund, have been pressing for a further drop in US consumer spending to reduce the massive trade imbalances overhauling the world economy. That view is broadly shared by the Reagan administration and the Federal Reserve, the US Central Bank, which has gradually raised interest rates this year to curb spending and head off inflation. Thursday's figures suggested to economists that the higher interest rates, including the half-point increase in the Fed's discount rate announced on August 9, were having the desired effect. Despite the 0.2 per cent dip, the \$133.47 billion volume of retail sales recorded in August was 2.7 per cent more than the August 1987 level, the government said. The statistics are adjusted to allow for seasonal fluctuations.



CENTRAL BANK OF KUWAIT

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To : Tuesday 20 / 9 / 1988
- 5. ALLOTMENT:** 21 / 9 / 1988
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LONDON

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London Stock Market Report

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WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1998

International Bond Highlights

London—Fuji International Finance (Australia) Ltd is issuing a 100 mln dir Eurobond due Oct 26, 1999 paying 9-1/4 pct and priced at 101.40 pct, lead manager Fuji International Finance Ltd said.

London—Olivetti International SA, through Banque Generale du Luxembourg on a fiduciary basis, is issuing a 75 mln ECU five year Eurobond paying eight pct and priced at 101-7/8 pct, lead manager Olivetti International SA said. (RTX 1031)

Stockholm—The Swedish debt office said it was calling in on Oct 21 a 500 mln dir floating rate note due 2005 at 8.75 pct.

London—Furuno Electric Co Ltd is issuing a 50 mln dir equity warrant Eurobond due Oct 6, 1992 with an indicated coupon of 5-3/8 pct and par pricing, lead manager Yamaichi International (Europe) Bernes—The central underwriting office of Swiss regional banks, Emissionszentrale Schweizerischer Regionalbanken, is issuing a 158 mln Swiss franc, eight year, 4-3/4 pct bond at par, lead manager Spar und Leihkasse said. (RTXC 1028)

Interbank Rates

CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
10-1/8 10-7/8	11-3/4 5/8	12-15/16 3/16
FF 4.85/90	4.80/90	4.90/5.00
PAR 7-7/16 9/16	7-5/8 3/4	7-7/8 1/2
BUR 1-5/8 1-7/8	3 3-1/4	3-1/4 3-1/2
DKR 6.35	7-1/8 3/16	7-1/8 1/2
ROM 10-3/8 10-7/8	11-1/8 11-5/8	11-3/8 11-7/8
AMS 5.37/50	5.40/50	5.50/60
YOK 7.500 8125	4.3750 4375	4.1875 2500
ECU 7.50 7.75	7.56 7.68	7.56 7.68

Interest Rates

FOLLOWING are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait yesterday.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	5-7/8	6-1/8
3 months	5-15/16	6-3/16
6 months	6-1/16	6-3/16
1 year	6-3/16	6-7/16

BOMBAY

	PR. CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	62	61.50	62.50	NICO	620	617.50	625
ACC	260	261	268	GNFC	48.75	49	50	MUKAM	90.50	90	91
ASIA PAINT	171.25	172.50	172.50	GRASIM	104	104	105	NOCIL	655	650	665
BAJAJ AUTO	286.25	286.25	288.75	GSFC	149.50	150	151	ORICA	28.25	30.50	30.75
BAR. RAYON	270	270	270	HINDALCO	106	107	106.50	PFIZER	60	60	60
BOM. DYING	118	118	117	HINDCO	100	101.25	105	PRA. AUTO	31	31	32.50
BR. BOND	97.50	98	100.50	HINDOCOR	28.25	28.25	28.75	RAYNAND	58	57	58
RSE INDEX	620.01	621.97	621.97	IND ORG	32.25	32	33.50	RELIANCE	187	188	186
CENTURYSPG	1040	1040	1032.5	INDRATON	66.25	65.50	66	SIEMENS	85.50	85	86
COLGATE	266.25	265	270	INDROL	220	220	215	SPIC	44.50	45	45
DEEPAKPERT	37	37	37.75	ITC	47	46	47	STONWILLS	255	250	260
EL. HOTEL	49	48	51	JKSYNTH	73	73.50	72	TATA PWR	222.50	220	225
ESCAPTES	133	133.75	137.50	L AND T	123.50	124.50	123.50	TATACHIN	78.25	78	79
ESSAR	18	18	18	MAHINDRA	65	64.50	65	TISCO	742.50	747.50	745
GAR. POLY	75.75	77	77.50	MATERSH	10.50	10.37	10.50	TISCO	891.25	896.25	898.75
GE. SHIP	29	29	29.25	MATHER PL	56	56	53	VOLTAS	352.50	350	355

FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE
AEF	205.0
ALHAYN VR	1645.0
BADENWERK	179.3
BAF	269.4
BAYER	330.3
BAYER HYP	353.0
BAYER VER	348.0
BBK	315.3
BIF	434.0
BOM	505.0
COMMERZB	237.3
CONIT GUM	257.3
DAIHER BEN	699.0
DEUTSCHE	509.5
DLW	387.0
DRESDNER	276.0
DT SAUCON	175.3
FAZ INDEX	507.29
FELDMUEHL	285.3
GOLDMANN	296.0
HARPENR	423.5
HOECHST AB	293.2
HOECHST	156.5
NORTEN	207.0
RUBEL HLD	445.5
KALI SALZ	169.0
KARSTADT	453.0
KAUFHOF	384.0
KLOECK H	138.0
KLOECK V	97.5
LINDE	698.5
LUFTHANSA	142.5
MAN	211.0
MANHESMAN	174.9
MERCEDES	366.0
METALLBERG	306.0
NIXDORF PF	434.5
NORISK HY	35.70
PHILIP KON	613.5
PORSCHE	532.0
PREUSSAG	173.5
PWA	238.0
RHEINMETAL	300.0
RUE P	217.0
SALAMANDER	279.8
SCHERING	523.5
SEL	293.5
STIEBEN	460.5
THYSEN	158.0
VARTA	286.5
VEBA	262.7
VEW	159.5
VOLKSWAGEN	263.5

HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE
C H TUNNEL	15.30
CHEUNG K	7.00
CHINA GAS	15.80
CHINA L-P	15.50
CHINA MOTR	21.00
COSMO PROP	2.80
EVERGO IND	4.8
FAR EAST C	6.9
GEN ORIENT	0
H S DEVELOP	8.60
H S INDEX	458.82
HANG LUNG	4.77
HANG SENG	27.30
HAW PAR BR	9.70
HK ELECOM	7.05
HK LAND CO	7.50
HK SHAN BK	5.95
HK SHAN IT	4.40
HK TELE CO	5.25
BUTCH WHAM	8.10
IND EQ PAC	11.70
JARDINE H	12.80
KOOLONG H	8.60
NEW WORLD	10.60
PAUL Y CON	2.70
REALTY DEV	6.85
S H K CO	1.81
S H K PROP	10.20
SINE DARY	2.37
STELLUS MFG	2.72
SWIRE PAC	17.00
T V B CO	12.80
TAL CHEUNG	3.60
UNION BANK	1.52
WOCK MARD	0
WOCK MARI	0
WORLD INTL	3.65

TOKYO

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE
AIJINOMOTO	2980
AKAI ELEC	586
AKAI	939
AKASHI GLS	1940
AKASHI OPT	656
BANK TOKYO	1530
BRIDGESTON	1280
CANON	1470
CASIO COMP	1440
CHUBAI PHM	1580
CITIZEN W	895
D-ICHI KAN	2830
DAI NIPPON	780
DAI NIPPON	2620
DAI NIPPON	10200
DAI NIPPON	6150
DAI NIPPON	8100
DAI NIPPON	2010
DAI NIPPON	2240
DAI NIPPON	1000
DAI NIPPON	1980
DAI NIPPON	1780
DAI NIPPON	3150
DAI NIPPON	3500
DAI NIPPON	1790
DAI NIPPON	711
DAI NIPPON	1790
DAI NIPPON	2190
DAI NIPPON	2140
DAI NIPPON	4030
DAI NIPPON	1070
DAI NIPPON	13800
DAI NIPPON	624
DAI NIPPON	1410
DAI NIPPON	2990
DAI NIPPON	1740
DAI NIPPON	690
DAI NIPPON	804
DAI NIPPON	1870
DAI NIPPON	737
DAI NIPPON	777
DAI NIPPON	771
DAI NIPPON	5430
DAI NIPPON	1640
DAI NIPPON	2900
DAI NIPPON	2640
DAI NIPPON	0
DAI NIPPON	995

Tokyo Stock Market Report

TOKYO STOCKS FLUCTUATE NARROWLY, CLOSE UP SLIGHTLY. TOKYO, SEPT 16, REUTER - SHARE PRICES FLUCTUATED NARROWLY AND CLOSED NEAR EARLY HIGHS, BROKERS SAID.

"BEFORE VACATION EVERYONE WANTED TO SEE WHAT THE U.S. DEFICIT WOULD BE. THE RESULT WAS GOOD," SAID TADAYASU HASEGAWA AT KOKUBAI SECURITIES' INVESTMENT INFORMATION DEPARTMENT.

"WE SAW SOME INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS COME BACK TO THE MARKET TODAY, BUT WE WON'T SEE ANY FULL FORCE PARTICIPATION UNTIL THE NEW FISCAL YEAR BEGINS IN OCTOBER," HE ADDED.

THE NIKKEI INDEX ROSE 60.71 POINTS, OR 0.22 PCT, TO 27,864.38. IT GAINED 11.51 POINTS ON WEDNESDAY. THE MARKET WAS CLOSED FOR A NATIONAL HOLIDAY ON THURSDAY.

FALLS LED RISES BY ABOUT SIX TO FIVE IN BRISK TURNOVER OF 1.1 BILLION YEN AGAINST ONE BILLION ON WEDNESDAY. VOLUME WAS NOT WARE THESE HIGH LEVELS SINCE ABOUT A MONTH AGO.

BEHINDHOUSE, AUTO, GAS, ELECTRICAL, SHIPBUILDING, SHIPPING, REAL ESTATE, RAILWAY/BUS, ROLLING STOCK AND SOME MANUFACTURING SHARES LED THE ADVANCES.

DECLINES WERE LED BY SECURITIES HOUSE, COMMUNICATIONS, NON-LIFE INSURANCE, PHARMACEUTICAL, OIL, CREDIT/LEASE, RUBBER, BANK, TEXTILE AND RETAIL STOCK.

THE INDEX ROSE BY AS MUCH AS 72.80 POINTS TO 27,878.47, BUT GRADUALLY LOST STEAM EXCEPT FOR A LAST MINUTE SPURT.

THE MARKET SAW A LOT OF CHURNING OF LARGE CAPITAL ISSUES, MAINLY STEELS, THE TOP 10 TRADED STOCKS CONSTITUTED SOME 85 PCT OF MORNING VOLUME, AND ALL WERE LARGE CAPITAL SHARES.

THE U.S. JULY TRADE DEFICIT NARROWED TO 9.53 BILLION DLRS, SOME TWO BILLION LESS THAN EXPECTED, FROM A REVISED 13.22 BILLION IN JUNE. THE SHORTFALL, STEPPING FROM A SHARP DROP IN IMPORTS AND SLOWER EXPORT GROWTH, IS A SIGN THE U.S. ECONOMY MAY BE SLOWING. THIS PUTS LESS UPWARDS PRESSURE ON INTEREST RATES AND THE DOLLAR, BROKERS SAID.

THE DOLLAR, ALTHOUGH RISING INITIALLY ON THE TRADE DATA NEWS, LATER SETTLED BACK DOWN TO PREVIOUS LEVELS.

Hong Kong Market Report

HONG KONG, SEPT 16, REUTER - STOCKS CLOSED LOWER ON LIGHT SELLING BY LOCAL INVESTORS IN THIN AND LACKLUSTRE TRADING, BROKERS SAID.

THE HANG SENG INDEX FINISHED 15.26 LOWER AT 2,458.82 AND THE HONG KONG DOLLAR INDEX OFF 10.79 POINTS AT 1,622.68. TURNOVER TOTALLED 388.53 MLN H.K. DLRS AGAINST 472.88 MLN ON THURSDAY. BROKERS NOTED THE DEVELOPMENT OF A BEARISH TREND DUE TO A LACK OF LIQUIDITY. "PRICES EASED NATURALLY BECAUSE THERE'S NOT MUCH INTEREST," SAID A U.S. BROKERAGE FIRM TRADER.

"SENTIMENT WAS FURTHER DAMPENED BY THOSE LOCAL COMPANIES WHO PLANNED TO TAP THE MARKET THROUGH NEW SHARE ISSUES."

AMMAN

As of 14.9.98	OPEN	CLOSE
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY	1.19	1.19
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	1.65	1.67
ARAB BANK	109.9	110.0
ARAB CHEMICAL DTR	3.90	3.85
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	1.58	1.58
ARAB INSURANCE	0.98	0.98
ARAB INT. UNION INS	0.90	0.90
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	0.53	0.58
ARAB JOR/INVT/BRK	2.10	2.10
ARAB PAPER CO/WT	0.28	0.28
ARAB PHARMA/CHM	1.93	1.92
ARAB PHARMA/CHM	0.76	0.75
ARAB POTASH CO.	---	---
ARABIAN SEAS JNS.	1.65	1.65
BANK OF JORDAN	15.05	15.15
BELGIUM INSURANCE	1.00	0.95
CAIRO AMMAN BANK	28.00	28.00
CONFECT/CHOCOLATE	1.05	1.25
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	0.67	0.67
DAR ALSHAAB DIV/INV.	1.63	1.62
DARCO/INVEST/HOUS.	0.49	0.49
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR	0.58	0.57
GARAGE OWNERS OFF	3.55	3.95
GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39	2.63
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.33	1.31
GENERAL MINING.	1.36	1.35
HIMMEL MINERALS	0.75	0.75
HOLY LAND INS.	1.40	1.35
IND./NATCH JENCO	0.67	0.66
INDSTRAL DEVELOP BHK	1.51	1.50
INDSTRAL/COM/AGR.	1.15	1.15
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	0.75	0.75
INTERN. COM/INV	0.18	0.18
IRSID ELECTRICITY	0.86	0.86
ISLANIC IND. HOUSE	0.64	0.64
ITERMED/PETRI/CH	1.23	1.25
J.TOUR-SP COMPLEX	0.79	0.80
JERUSALEM INS.	1.26	1.29
JO TOBACCO/CIGARET	14.25	14.00
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR	1.22	1.22
JOR EAGLE INS.	25.01	25.05
JOR ELECTRIC POWER	1.62	1.62
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	0.95	0.95
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY	0.88	0.89
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.50	2.30
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.	1.67	1.66
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20	1.20
JOR LEASING CORP.	0.59	0.58
JOR LHM BRICK	0.21	0.21
JOR MANAR/CONSULT	0.50	0.50
JOR NATIONAL BANK	2.54	2.54
JOR PAPER CARDBRGS	3.17	3.19
JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	2.55	2.55
JOR PTPES MANUFACT	1.24	1.24
JOR PRESS/PUBLISH.	2.00	2.15
JOR PRINTING/PACK.	4.00	4.05
JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	0.73	0.71
JOR SECURIT CORP.	0.76	0.74
JOR SELPHO CHEM.	2.54	2.57
JOR WOOD INDUSTRY	1.15	1.14
JOR WORSTED MLL.	4.64	4.60
JOR KUWAIT AGR.	1.00	1.00
JOR. PETROLIUM REF	7.66	7.65
JOR. FRENCH INS.	4.53	4.52
JOR. INV. FIN. CORP.	2.06	2.01
JORDAN GULF REAL	0.30	0.30
JORDAN DAIRY	0.94	0.95
JORDAN GULF BANK	1.18	1.17
JORDAN INSURANCE	0.94	0.95
JORDAN ISLAMIC BHK	13.85	13.90
JORDAN KUMAIT BANK	1.37	1.37
JORDAN TANNING	1.95	1.95
LIVESTOCK/POULTRY	0.68	0.65
MACH/ENGINE/PAINT	0.77	0.77
MAS INDUSTRIES	0.69	0.73
MIDDEL EAST HOTEL	0.60	0.60
MIDDEL EAST INS.	60.00	60.00
MINERALS RESEARCH	0.60	0.55
NAT.FIN. INVEST CO	1.71	1.71
NAT/CABLE/VIREF/NF	1.00	1.01
NATIONAL AHLIA INS	1.22	1.22
NATIONAL INDUSTRY	0.39	0.38
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO	0.67	0.67
NATIONAL STEEL	2.55	2.53
ORIENT DRY BATTERY	0.25	0.28
PETRA BANK	1.92	1.92
PETRA JOR. INS.	0.35	0.35
PHILADELPHIA INS.	0.86	0.85
RAFFIA INDUSTRIAL	0.75	0.75
REAL ESTATE INV.	0.42	0.42
SHIPPING LINES	0.85	0.85
SPINNING WEAVING	0.84	0.85
THE HOUSING BANK	1.96	1.94
UNITED INSURANCE	0.96	0.96
UNIVERSAL CHEM. IND	1.55	1.51
UNIVERSAL INS.	0.69	0.69
WOOLEN INDUSTRIES	0.68	0.68
YARNOLK INSURANCE	1.05	1.05

PHILIPPINES MAKATI

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR	BUY	SELL	OPEN
STOCK	9.30	9.40	9.30
AC-A	2.38	2.40	2.36
AC-B	2.28	2.30	2.30
AC-C	32.00	33.00	---
PLDT	211.00	212.00	211.00
KPSI-A	2.02	2.10	---
SHC-A	140.00	141.00	140.00
SHC-B	226.00	228.00	226.00
MINING SECTOR	---	---	---
APX-A	0.08	0.07	0.06
APX-B	0.08	0.07	0.06
AT-A	18.75	19.00	19.00

Makati Stock Market Report

OFFICIAL INFORMATION	SHARES	VALUE	AVG. PRICE	CHANGES
SECTOR	17,718,200	2,361,558.91	133.87	0.76 UP
MINING	1,718,200	2,925,510.75	169.45	3.54 UP
OIL	242,600,000	2,250,400.00	9.29	0.07 UP
TOTAL	256,393,840	6,637,460.74	74.44	3.50 UP

PHILIPPINES MANILA

CBK has no legal powers to close unlicensed exchange firms: Sheikh Salem

THE Central Bank of Kuwait has no legal powers to close unlicensed exchange companies or bureaux that break the law and engage in activities outside their licence, according to CBK Governor Sheikh Salem Abdulaziz Al Sabah on Thursday.

However, in a statement published in a local daily, Sheikh Salem said that according to a ministerial law, the Central Bank removes from its register any unlicensed or law-violating money-changing bureaux.

Furthermore, the bank published its decision in the official gazette and notifies the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the governor went on.

Activities

Sheikh Salem advised caution and discretion when dealing with these bureaux by verifying their licences and the activities they are allowed to undertake, mainly selling and buying foreign currencies and precious metals.

The governor warned that exchange bureaux are not licensed to trade in options, forward and spot markets or commodities.

The Central Bank cannot interfere with business deals between customers and exchange bureaux, the official said. Investors err when they commission companies to handle their accounts, a move which often leads to customer bankruptcy indebtedness.

Sheikh Salem said investors have to thoroughly study any contract before signing because only they will be responsible for the consequences and any legal dispute between them and companies handling their accounts.

A warning is the best safeguard and protection for investors, Sheikh Salem said.

UAE likely to issue bonds to finance budget deficit

ABU DHABI, Sept 16, (Reuters): The United Arab Emirates (UAE) will have to borrow money to finance its budget deficit unless world prices rise, the governor of its central bank was quoted today as saying.

Abdul-Malik Al-Hammar, quoted by the official emirates news agency WAM, told the Arab bankers' magazine that funds from individual emirates had so far enabled the federal government to avoid borrowing from banks.

"But if the oil market maintains the same trend of the first quarter of this year, then it is inevitable that the federal government will borrow, preferably through medium and long-term bonds," he said.

The UAE, which officials say will have a 1988 budget deficit similar to the 2.75-billion-dinar (\$745-million) deficit of last year, receives more than 90 per cent of its revenues from oil last month that a plan to issue bonds worth between two billion and three billion dirhams (\$540 million and \$800 million) had been dropped.

KD deposit rates firm

KUWAITI dinar deposit rates firmed yesterday on tight liquidity which dealers attributed to dollar buying and settlement on Wednesday of a KD 100 million three-month treasury bill issue.

But there was little activity except in the short dates. Overnight traded at seven and eight per cent and spot-next and tomorrow-next funds were quoted at 6-1/2, 5-1/2 per cent.

The dollar again firmed against the dinar, reflecting international strength after an unexpected narrowing of the US trade deficit in July.

Inflation fears ease**Gold slumps and dollar steady**

LONDON, Sept 16, (Reuters): The price of gold slumped today to its lowest level in a year-and-a-half as sagging oil prices cooled investors' worries about inflation.

The dollar was still changed and stock markets were mixed. On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average edged 1.60 points higher to 2,093.88 at midday.

But gold fell \$8 to dip below \$410 an ounce. It has not been as low since March, 1987.

Dealers said investors seemed uninterested in bullion.

Gold is a favoured hedge against the inflation, but as investors grow less concerned that rising prices will erode the value of cash and securities, they generally prefer to put funds in investments that pay interest.

Mover

"Oil is the prime mover and sentiment in gold is generally bearish," said Rhona O'Connell, a precious metals analyst at investment bankers Shearson Lehman Hutton Inc in London.

Traders said they were growing less worried about inflation because oil prices were still falling, as Brent crude oil from the North Sea dropped another 20 cents a barrel to be quoted at \$13.75 for November delivery.

A worldwide glut of oil is holding prices down despite a brief rally earlier this week, when OPEC said its key price-monitoring committee would meet later this month to discuss steps to mop up the surplus.

Shrugged

Even in Britain, investors shrugged off an announcement of a sharp rise in inflation, which the government said ran at a 5.7 per cent annual rate in August.

The dollar was little changed at 1.8760 West German marks and 134.20 yen, remaining steady at levels hit after Wednesday's report of a sharp drop in the US trade deficit eased concern that Americans were spending more dollars than the rest of the world wants to hold.

"People are caught between a rock and a hard place," said Peter Rogers of Bank Leu Ltd in New York.

"They would like to buy dollars — the trade deficit has improved, inflation is not bad, the economy is in good shape ... but they're afraid to buy dollars, particularly at these high levels, for fear the central banks will intervene," he said.

In London equity prices closed mixed but well above their morning lows, on relief that UK retail prices rose a much anticipated

1.1 per cent to an annual 5.7 per cent in August, dealers said.

The figure came above some market estimates but analysts had been bracing themselves for a large rise after UK Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson's earlier warning of a rise in inflation in the near term.

At 1514 GMT the FTSE index was three points off at 1,766.3, having touched a low of 1,755.1 this morning. Volume at 1500 GMT was 428.9 million shares.

News of a £1.465 billion public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR) surplus, around twice the size of market expectations also helped sentiment.

Rally

Although the UK retail price data prompted a rally, the figures indicate a worrying rise in the inflation rate to near seven per cent by the year end, analysts said.

This, coupled with recent news UK average earnings are growing at a yearly rate of nine per cent, has prompted concern the economy faces a possible wage-price spiral. The market awaits money supply and trade data to shed additional light on the pace of the economy and the possibility of a rise in base rates.

Sears was the most active issue, with over 20 million shares

changing hands for a 6p rise against the general trend to 132, amid continuing speculation of stake building and a possible takeover bid for the stores group.

Lucas also met speculative demand, rising 17p to 549 on volume of 4.2 million shares. Dealers said market talk held that the stock had risen on rumours of stake-building from a US source or that West German conglomerate Siemens AG has been buying shares in the company.

Bid

Maxwell Communications lost 2p to 188 after raising its bid for Macmillan of the US to \$86.80 per share for \$84.

Enterprise added 17p to 687 after a session of volatile trading. Dealers said a stock shortage contributed to the gains.

Lasso, which recently said it will auction its 25 per cent stake in Enterprise, closed 2p lower at 567. Dealers pointed out that Enterprise is at present protected from a hostile bid by a "golden share" which remains in force until the end of this year.

Lasso featured earlier this week when British Gas staged a raid on its shares and picked up a 1.14 per cent stake. British Gas, down 2p to 166, has yet to amplify on its action.

Asia-Pacific region to have strongest economic growth in '90s

NEW YORK, Sept 16, (AP): The Asia-Pacific region will be the world's most rapidly growing economic area in the 1990s, a new study predicts.

But trade within the 12-nation region itself will be the engine of growth, unlike past years when exports from Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore to the rest of the world fuelled the area's progress, the study says.

The 60-page study, "the Asia-Pacific region: economic and business prospects," was released yesterday by KPMG Peat Marwick, a worldwide accounting firm. It was prepared by Sri International, a leading research organisation.

"During the next 10 years, the region's economy is expected to expand at an annual rate about two percentage points higher than the world as a whole," the study says.

Fastest

"Trade will expand even more rapidly, but the fastest component for most countries will be exports to trading partners within the region, rather than outside as has been the pattern in the past."

"The Asia-Pacific region will be a magnet for substantially higher levels of investment flows in the future. In addition to attracting capital from North America and Western Europe, intraregional investment will be extremely strong. Japan is expected to dramatically increase its investments in other countries in the region."

"The Asian developing countries are an important part of the restructuring of the entire Japanese economy that is underway as the strong yen pushes manufacturing activity offshore."

"The United States and Western Europe will not support further large increases in Asia-Pacific exports. Therefore, the region will have to depend to a greater extent than in the past on trade within the region and on development of their domestic economies."

The report also adds: "China is expected to have the most rapidly growing economy in the region in the next decade (6.7 per cent yearly), as it has in the past five years. Nevertheless, China's per capita income will

still be the lowest ... barely equalling Indonesia's by the end of the century."

"The newly industrialising countries will continue to experience strong growth, although not as rapid as during the past several decades. South Korea is expected to have average growth of around 6.5 per cent a year in 1987-98, while Hong Kong, Singapore, and Taiwan have projected growth rates in the 5.5 to 6 per cent range."

"Economic growth in Thailand and Malaysia will be somewhat weaker, averaging approximately 5 per cent a year."

"Indonesia and the Philippines will continue to have the weakest economies with average annual growth rates of 4 per cent and 3 per cent respectively."

"Among the three developed countries in the Asia-Pacific region, Japan will have the strongest growth at an average of slightly more than 3 per cent a year. The Australian and New Zealand economies are expected to expand slightly faster in the next decade than in the 1974-87 period, but neither is likely to see an extended boom."

The report also adds: "China is expected to have the most rapidly growing economy in the region in the next decade (6.7 per cent yearly), as it has in the past five years. Nevertheless, China's per capita income will

Senate confirms Brady as new Treasury Secretary

WASHINGTON, Sept 16, (AP): The Senate on Wednesday confirmed the nomination of investment banker Nicholas F. Brady to serve as Treasury Secretary during the remaining four months of President Ronald Reagan's administration.

The 92-2 vote installed Brady in advance of a meeting next week in Berlin of finance ministers from the world's industrial powers. Senators of both parties were anxious for a strong vote of confidence to strengthen Brady's hand in the meeting of the so-called Group of Seven.

"If we did not confirm Nick Brady, he would go with a little bit of a cloud over his head to an important international meeting. Nothing could serve the Congress or the country more than to give Nick Brady, a unanimous vote of approval," Sen. Bob Packwood, ranking Republican on the Senate Finance Committee, said shortly before the vote.

Deficit

Sen. Kent Conrad, an opposition Democrat, sounded one of the few discordant notes, voting against the nomination after criticising Brady for saying during his confirmation hearing that the federal government could grow its way out of the budget deficit.

Brady, upon being sworn in, will be the third Treasury Secretary to serve under Reagan. Donald Regan, later became White House Chief of Staff, held the cabinet post from 1981 to 1985, turning it over to James A. Baker III.

Although Brady is expected to

World tourism increases

MADRID, Sept 16, (Reuters): More than 380 million tourists will travel abroad this year, a seven per cent increase over 1987, the Madrid-based World Tourism Organisation (WTO) said today.

The increase was shared by all continents, with the Far East and the Pacific leading the list.

The upward trend, confirming a two-year recovery in international travel, would take the number of tourists close to the half-a-billion mark by year 2000, the WTO said.

Exports of video machines falling**VTR boom for Japan electronics coming to a halt**

TOKYO, Sept 16, (Reuters): The video tape recorder (VTR) boom has ended and Japan's electronics makers face some lean years.

Exports of video machines are falling and profit margins at home are narrowing, industry analysts said. Manufacturers can no longer reap the profits they once made.

"There will be nothing to match the importance in the electronics market that home VTRs have," said analyst Darrel Whitten of Prudential-Bache Securities. "Finding something to replace it will be difficult."

Dipped

Japan's VTR production suddenly dipped in 1987. "It'll be difficult for manufacturers to make high margins and see double-digit growth any more," said Hitomi Hashimoto, analyst at Kleinwort Benson International.

Last year Japan's production

of video tape recorders fell 9.8 per cent to 30.54 million sets, after peaking at 33.88 million in 1986, according to government statistics.

That trend continues. In the first six months of this year output fell 2.2 per cent from the same period last year to 12.9 million, said an official of the Electronic Industries Association of Japan, which keeps tabs on electronic goods.

Japan still produces most of the VTRs made, but South Korean and other makers are putting out cheaper machines and pushing into the markets overseas as well as in Japan, analysts said.

Over the years, Japan has kept production of its coveted money-maker at home where the strong yen and higher wages have pushed up costs, Whitten said.

Nearly 88 per cent of Japanese

firms' VTR production is in Japan, compared with only 54.9 per cent for colour TVs and 38.5 per cent for radio-cassette equipment, he said. "The percentage of overseas production for VTRs by Japanese makers is among the lowest for consumer electronics products."

Although sales in Japan surged 24.1 per cent in January to June, according to the Electronics Association figures, Whitten noted that: "Even though domestic sales have been growing sharply in unit terms, net prices are falling."

Exports

Declining exports inflict double damage as many Japanese makers have been lowering prices of their VTRs sold abroad to hold onto market share, Whitten said.

Exports account for about three-quarters of Japanese VTR

sales. Makers should be able to make some profits from video sales in the next few years, but they cannot rely on VTRs any longer for corporate growth, analysts said.

Aware the VTR boom would eventually end, Matsushita Electric Industrial Co and Sony among other makers have turned their focus to industrial goods.

"VTRs had provided a tremendous source of cash flow and companies were able to shift capital to develop industrial electronics goods," Whitten said.

Strong

The commercial video business, where Sony has a strong hold, and growing video camera sales will continue to provide video makers with profits, analysts said.

All the consumer electronics companies are betting on a boom in high-definition television, which could spur new demand for both digitalised video and TV equipment, analysts said.

But high-definition TV will not be available to consumers until satellites which support the system go up in 1990, Hashimoto said.

High definition TV may be the new money-maker, but as with VTRs it will take a couple of years for the market to build.

"There will be lean years before that will come in a big way," Whitten said.

Although Brady is expected to

UPI expects to show profit next year

WASHINGTON, Sept 16, (AP): United Press International expects to turn a modest profit in the third quarter of 1989 and has reached agreement to provide financial and stock market information from Standard and Poor's Corp. for its newspaper clients. UPI president Paul Steine said yesterday.

"I am happy to tell you ... that UPI is alive and well and kicking," Steine told a news conference at the National Press Club.

Costs

Reviewing the first six months he took over day-to-day operation of the news service from Mexican newspaper publisher Mario Vazquez Rana in February, Steine said the new

UPI management team is on schedule with initiatives designed to reverse operating losses that totalled \$18 million last year.

Steine said UPI has slashed administrative costs by more than \$10 million, reorganised its business operations and raised between \$8 million and \$10 million toward its goal of 15 million in capital funds from outside "institutional investors," including some British lenders.

He said UPI has reached a one-year agreement with the Wire Service Guild, plans to open a fourth new domestic news bureau soon and is hiring employees for a new regional business report being launched in October.

Net staff layoffs have been held to less than the 150 employees planned when UPI's "turnaround business plan" was announced on March 30, he said. The UPI staff now totals about 1,150 employees worldwide, he said.

Contracts

Steine said loss of UPI subscribers since the end of 1987 has produced a drop of \$3 million to 5 million in estimated annual revenues of about 70 million. He said some other newspapers have signed contracts but he declined to identify them.

Steine said UPI expects to post another, much smaller operating loss this year and show a "small profit" in the July-September quarter of 1989.

slightly weaker dollar and Wall Street's lower close dampened sentiment. The All-Share Swiss index lost 2.3 to 888.0.

PARIS: Shares ended slightly firmer after hesitant trading on small volume focused on political takeover targets. The 30-share bourse indicator gained by 0.13 pct.

LONDON: Prices closed mixed but above their morning lows on news that Britain's August inflation rate was not as high as some predictions. At 1514 GMT the FTSE-100 index was down three at 1,766.3.

NEW YORK: Stocks were narrowly mixed in directionless trading. The Dow was down one at 2,091 with gains and declines about in balance.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, Sept 16, (Reuters): Stocks closed lower as the gold sector posted its second steep fall for the week and uncertainty returned, sidelining institutions. The All-Ordinaries index closed 8.6 down at 1,559.2.

TOKYO: Prices fluctuated narrowly and closed near early highs with some institutional investors returning to the market. The Nikkei index closed up 60.71 at 27,866.38.

HONG KONG: Stocks were lower on light selling by local investors in this and lacklustre trading. The Hang Seng index was down 15.26 at 2,458.82.

SINGAPORE: Prices were moderately lower across the board on profit-taking and stop-loss selling in quiet trading. The Straits Time industrial index fell 5.09 to 1,064.93.

BOMBAY: Market closed for holiday. It will reopen on Monday.

FRANKFURT: Shares closed firmer after active trading when foreign investors moved into the market. Turnover was high. The real-time DAX 30-share index gained 6.94 to 1,235.05.

ZURICH: Some profit-taking set in and prices were easier. A

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SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Title holder

SCOTTRUN, Penn., Sept 16. (Reuters): Sugar Ray Leonard on Wednesday acknowledged that World Boxing Council (WBC) light heavyweight title holder Donny Lalonde may be no match for him, but said the Canadian is after all a champion and available.

Marathon race

NEW YORK, Sept 16. (Reuters): Former world record holder Steve Jones of Britain and 1984 Olympic champion Joan Benoit-Samuelson will make their New York City marathon debuts this year, race organisers announced on Wednesday.

Commonwealth Games

SEOUL, Sept 16. (Reuters): Victoria, British Columbia, was chosen yesterday as the venue for the 1994 Commonwealth Games, a Commonwealth Games Federation spokesman said.

Racing team

SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS, Belgium, Sept 16. (Reuters): Britain's Jaguar sports car motor racing team will be bidding to win the Constructors' World title for a second successive year on Sunday when they take part in the Spa 1,000 kilometres.

Soviet player

TURIN, Italy, Sept 16. (Reuters): Alexander Zavarov, the first Soviet footballer to join an Italian club, made a brief debut for Juventus on Wednesday but failed to stop his new side going down 2-0 at home to Ascoli in a first round Cup tie.

Eintracht coach

FRANKFURT, West Germany, Sept 16. (Reuters): West German First Division soccer club Eintracht Frankfurt on Wednesday appointed Hungarian Pal Csernai as coach, replacing Karlheinz Feldkamp who has been absent through illness for a month.

Top boxer

CARACAS, Sept 16. (Reuters): The World Boxing Association (WBA) has named junior-flyweight champion Myung Woo Yuh of South Korea as Boxer of the Month for August.

Mats Wilander

NEW YORK, Sept 16. (Reuters): World number one Mats Wilander said on Wednesday that the hard playing surface at the US Open he won last Sunday had taken its toll on him physically and contributed to his decision to skip the Olympics.

Ice skater

LOS ANGELES, Sept 16. (AP): Ex-Olympic ice skater Tai Babbington, despondent about recent performances, was hospitalised on Wednesday after overdosing on pills, authorities said.

Giovannini wins

SCHEGGIA, Italy, Sept 16. (UPI): Nestor Giovannini of Argentina retained his WBC junior lightweight world boxing title late on Wednesday by winning a 12-round decision over Zaire-born naturalised Italian Mhuw Beya in this central Italy hill-town.

Lancome Trophy

ST NOM LA BRETECHE, France, Sept 16. (Reuters): Second round scores in the Lancome Trophy golf tournament today (British unless stated): 130 Severiano Ballesteros (Spain) 64 66; 135 Jose-Maria Olazabal (Spain) 69 66; 137 Peter Baker 70 67; 138 Sandy Lyle 75 63; Mark McNulty (Zimbabwe) 74 64; 139 Chris Moody 71 68; Craig Parry 68 71; Sam Torrance 71 68.

Abu Nidal offers security squad

BEIRUT, Sept 16. (Reuters): The feared Abu Nidal Palestinian commando faction said today it would not disrupt the Olympic Games and offered to send a security squad to help out.

The Fatah Revolutionary Council (FRC) headed by Abu Nidal, one of the world's most wanted commando leaders, said in a Beirut statement it was not planning any attacks against competitors in South Korea, describing it as a friendly nation.

"To show our good will, our group is ready to send a security delegation to help protect the Games if the Seoul authorities ask," the statement added.

American baseball

NEW YORK, Sept 16. (Reuters): Results of Major League baseball games played yesterday.

American League	
New York	5 Boston 3
Oakland	6 Texas 2
Toronto	3 Cleveland 0
Minnesota	10 Chicago 3
Kansas City	2 California 1
National League	
New York	4 Chicago 1
St Louis	3 Philadelphia 1
Cincinnati	7 Houston 5
Montreal	9 Pittsburgh 4

PAKISTAN HIT 438 FOR SIX WICKETS

Miandad blasts Aussies for 211



Javed Miandad

KARACHI, Sept 16. (Reuters): Javed Miandad completed his fifth Test double-century today to lead Pakistan to a daunting first innings score of 438 for six on the second day of the first Test against Australia.

Despite some dropped catches and one disputed umpiring decision, it was a masterly performance from the Pakistani captain. Resuming at his overnight total of 94, Miandad proceeded to strike his characteristically graceful strokes to all corners of the National Stadium pitch.

Easy

After 590 minutes at the crease, he finally fell to Bruce Reid for 211, giving an easy catch to David Boon at mid-off.

Miandad, restored to the captaincy in the absence of Imran Khan, has now scored double centuries against every Test-playing country except West Indies. His innings included 29 fours and one six.

It was an unprofitable day for Australia in the sultry Karachi weather. The only victim in the

first two sessions was night-watcherman Tauseef Ahmad, caught by Boon at forward short leg off Tim May for a Test career best of 35.

Boon took three catches in all, teaming up with May again to dispose of Salim Malik for 45. But in general the day did little to enhance the reputation of Australia's fielding.

Altogether at least five catches went down. Miandad was dropped by debutant wicketkeeper Ian Healy on 126 and then by Boon on 186.

Healy was the villain again when a chance from Salim Malik went begging on 14 and six runs later it was Steve Waugh's turn at first slip to let an opportunity pass.

Border thought he had Miandad lbw when the Pakistani captain failed to offer a stroke to a slower ball on 178. But umpire Mehboob Shah ignored the Australians' confident appeals.

Pace bowler Reid ended the day with figures of three for 91 and off-spinner Tim May 86 for two. Tony Dodemaide was the

most economical bowler, conceding only 14 runs off his 10 overs today, while Shoaib's 15 overs cost him only 24 runs.

Off-spinner Peter Taylor was taken off after giving away 20 runs in his three overs.

Yesterday, a powerful 196-run partnership between Miandad and Shoaib Mohammad gave Pakistan a fine start.

The pair steered Pakistan from a nervous 21 for two to 217 in the late afternoon, before Shoaib fell to Steve Waugh six short of a century.

The all-important toss went to Miandad and he opted to bat on a wicket tailor-made for Pakistan's dreaded spinners.

But Reid gave Australia a superb start, removing both openers. He bowled Mudassar Nazar round his legs for nought with the second ball of the day.

Reid then teamed up with young wicket-keeper Ian Healy, making his Test debut, to dismiss Rameez Raja, caught behind for nine.

The sparse crowd, braving the sultry weather, was silenced.

But Miandad and Shoaib kept their heads and gradually came to dominate the bowling. Shoaib survived an early dropped catch by Peter Taylor in the gully. From 62 at lunch they took the score to 149 at tea. Shoaib finally succumbed to a fine outswinger which clipped his off stump.

Scoreboard

PAKISTAN first innings (over-	
night 227 for three)	
Mudassar Nazar c Reid	0
Rameez Raja c Healy b Reid	9
Shoaib Mohammad b Waugh	94
Javed Miandad c Boon b Reid	211
Tauseef Ahmad c Boon b May	35
Salim Malik c Boon b May	45
Saeed Ahmed not out	8
Aamer Malik not out	5
Extras (b-16 lb-10 wk-5)	31
Total (six wickets)	438
Fall of wickets: 1-0 2-21 3-217 4-284 5-398 6-428	
To bat: Salim Yousaf, Abdul Qadir, Iqbal Qasim	
Bowling to date: Reid 37-9-91-3, Dodemaide 29-13-35-0, Waugh 26-3-94-1, May 36-8-86-2, Taylor 16-2-73-0, Border 17-7-33-0	
Australia—G. Marsh, D. Boon, D. Jones, A. Border (captain), G. Wood, S. Waugh, I. Healy, B. Reid, T. May, A. Dodemaide, P. Taylor.	

Mo Johnston (left) scores Scotland's second goal. (Reuters wirephoto)

Gullit ends brave Welsh resistance

LONDON, Sept 16. (AP): Ruud Gullit awoke from an injury and illness-induced slumber to score a spectacular goal and spare the Netherlands' blushes as the European soccer champions laboured to a 1-0 victory over Wales in a World Cup qualifying game on Wednesday.

Gullit, who has been suffering from sinusitis and a knee injury, struck seven minutes from time to break stubborn Welsh resistance in Amsterdam. After heading powerfully against the bar, the muscular striker, who had struggled throughout the first 83 minutes, latched on to the rebound to head the ball home.

In other World Cup qualifying games, Scotland won 2-1 in Norway while Northern Ireland and its neighbour, the Irish Republic, tied 0-0.

Action

A goal by Neil Webb gave England a 1-0 victory over Denmark in an exhibition game at Wembley and Yugoslavia came away from Spain with a 2-1 victory in Oviedo in another non-competitive match.

Wednesday's World Cup action was the busiest of the season so far with places in the 1990 finals in Italy at stake.

West Germany's 4-0 victory in Finland two weeks ago put heavy pressure on the Dutch in their Group Four game. Only one team from the highly competitive group is sure to qualify for the finals in Italy while the runner-up will have to go through a secondary qualification phase.

The tension showed as Wales' Neville Southall justified his rating as one of the world's best goalkeepers by beating out shots from Jan Wouters and Ronald Koeman and headers from Hendrie Kruzen and Marco van Basten.

Van Basten top scorer in the European Championships with five goals but was kept off the scoresheet by the close marking

of the experienced Peter Nicholas and debut-making Alan Knill, as well as Southall's acrobatics.

Welsh manager Terry Yorath described Southall's performance as "inspirational" while Thijs Libregts, who has taken over as Dutch coach from the successful Rinus Michels, said: "He had a wonderful game."

Matchwinner Gullit added to the praise being poured on the Welsh goalie, when he said: "Ian Rush was right when he said Southall was one of the best goalkeepers in the world."

A second half goal by Mo Johnston snatched the points for Scotland in Group Five-opening game.

Paul McStay began the scoring by latching on to Johnston's pass and shooting low into the net from 15 metres.

A minute before half-time Jan Aage Fjortoft levelled for the Norwegians with a well-placed header from a free kick by Kjell Osvald.

Persistent Scottish attacking brought its reward in the 62nd minute when Gary Gillespie burst past three Norwegian defenders and set up the match-winning shot by Johnston.

The Irish Republic, which surprised the opposition during the European Championships in West Germany in June, carved out a string of chances against its neighbour in Belfast but failed to find the back of the net.

Grabbed The visitor claimed a goal when a shot from Tony Carrigan appeared to cross the bar after hitting the post. But French referee Michael Vautrot ruled out the effort.

Webb, one of several English flops in the European Championships, grabbed the goal that gave Bobby Robson's much criticised line up a 1-0 victory over an experimental Danish side.

Worcestershire take county title

LONDON, Sept 16. (Reuters): Worcestershire won the English County Cricket Championship today for the first time since 1974 after overcoming a petroleum jelly attack on their pitch and a brave challenge by their nearest rivals Kent.

Worcestershire took the title by one point after crushing bottom club Glamorgan by an innings and 76 runs.

Hopes

The victory came two hours after Kent had disposed off Surrey by an innings and 66 runs at Canterbury. Kent still entertain vague hopes of a share in the championship because of a rule book dispute but even captain

Chris Cowdrey has almost given up the struggle.

The start at Worcester was delayed for an hour after officials discovered petroleum jelly had been poured onto the pitch. Industrial hot air blowers dried out the surface and a man said by police to be "not local" was later questioned.

Eighteen overs were deducted from the day's minimum quota of 110, but it made no difference to rampant Worcester.

Kent still have a notional chance of a share in the championship after asking the authorities at Lord's for an extra point denied them earlier in the season.

In June Kent beat Warwick-

shire by an innings but only took 23 points for the win because two Warwickshire players were injured and unable to bat in the first innings, meaning Kent could only take eight wickets and three bowling bonus points instead of four.

Kent captain Chris Cowdrey said: "We have been on to Lord's this week trying to get that extra point. But I don't think we are going to get it and we don't have any real complaints."

"At Edgbaston we bowled them out twice in a day, taking 16 wickets. There was still an hour to play so I don't think there is a question that we would not have got those extra wickets."

"I think they will have to look

at the rules again, but I suppose we also benefitted from them not having all their players. We are not looking to fight against them."

Results

At Canterbury: Kent beat Surrey by an innings and 66 runs. Kent 354 in 98.2 overs. Surrey 109 in 37 overs and 179 (C. Penn four for 44). Kent 24 points Surrey 4.

At Worcester: Worcestershire beat Glamorgan by an innings and 76 runs. Glamorgan 244 in 96 overs and 103 (P. Newport five for 23). Worcestershire 423 in 135 overs (S. Rhodes 46). Worcestershire 24 points Glamorgan 4.

India not relaxing S. African stand

NEW DELHI, Sept 16. (Reuters): India apparently slammed the door on England's cricketers with South African links today following hints it was ready to relax its stand.

An External Affairs Ministry spokesman, commenting on Sports Minister Margaret Alva's more flexible stand in Seoul yesterday, said the government's policy was unchanged.

Alva told reporters England's winter tour of India could still go ahead if captain Graham Gooch

and seven other members of the touring team agreed to sever all links with South Africa.

"There is no change in our policy," said the spokesman. "If she has been quoted saying something different then I am authorised to say the position is the same as when I made a statement a week ago."

Spelling out the government's stand against the England players last week, he said: "We must make it abundantly clear that we would not permit entry to

India for the purposes of the tour and player having, or likely to have, sporting contacts with South Africa."

Ranbir Singh, secretary of the Board of Cricket Control in India (BCCI), was quoted in The Statesman daily today as saying it was up to the English Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) to substitute players if it wanted to revive the tour.

Singh said the BCCI had to accept the government's stand.

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